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# ARAB TIMES



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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1989

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## Bush to meet Middle East leaders

WASHINGTON, March 21. (Reuters) President Bush will explore Middle East peace prospects in White House talks with the leaders of Egypt, Israel and Jordan over the next six weeks, the White House said today.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will meet Bush on April 3, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will meet him on April 6, and King Hussein of Jordan is scheduled to visit here on May 2.

White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Bush would seek the views of the leaders on the best way to advance the peace process and made clear Bush would not unveil a new American initiative at that time.

"We are confident that all three forthcoming visits will materially contribute to diplomatic progress toward peace in the Middle East," Fitzwater said.

"The President is committed to moving the peace process forward and anticipates a useful exchange of views with key regional leaders... he's not presenting a new initiative."

Fitzwater noted that Bush held discussions with Mubarak and King Hussein in Tokyo last month when the three were there for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito. Israeli President Chaim Herzog also had talks with Bush at that time.

In Washington Secretary of State James Baker said today that the United States had differences with Israel over the future of the Mideast peace process, including the future of the lands Israel captured from its Arab neighbours.

## One stabbed Israeli policy worries Britain

LONDON, March 21. (Agencies) Britain said yesterday that Israel's policy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip could not go on and that a political solution was necessary.

Following weekend unrest, a Foreign Office statement appealed for "all parties to exercise maximum restraint" and called for negotiations as "the only way forward."

"We are gravely concerned about the further casualties sustained in the occupied territories last weekend," the Foreign Office said.

"These tragic events demonstrate again that Israel's current policy in the occupied territories is not sustainable and underline the urgent need for a political solution. Negotiations offer the only way forward."

Meanwhile, a Palestinian from the occupied Gaza Strip stabbed an Israeli doctor to death in central Tel Aviv today and wounded two other men before police shot and captured him.

Police identified the dead man as Dr. Kuri Moshe Shalinger, 73, of Tel Aviv.

Israeli troops in occupied Gaza city launched a curfew on some 7,000 residents today, cut off water and electricity, and threatened stiffer measures if a missing Army rifle was not returned.

In Tunis, PLO officials say they are going into the second formal meeting with US diplomats tomorrow seeking substantive discussions on Middle East peace and hoping Washington does not press for Palestinian concessions.

## New law anchors expat to sponsor

Part-time over: Early applicants exempted

By Lima Al Khalafawi  
Arab Times staff

TIME has run out for expatriate workers in the private sector who want to change jobs but haven't met the requirements of the new labour law.

As of today, the only private sector workers who can change jobs are those who have either served a full three years in their current jobs or else have been in Kuwait legally for more than ten years.

Assistant Undersecretary for Labour Affairs Mohammed Al Shabnan told the Arab Times that the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour will not give private sector employees any more time to "settle their affairs," as they have been given enough time already.

Al Shabnan said the government's various labour departments each have their own field inspection teams, and will require no additional inspectors for the enforcement of the new regulations. The inspectors aim to protect workers as well as checking to see if they have the appropriate permits, he added.

New regulations to cost businessmen money

## Merits still debated

By Jadranka Porter  
Arab Times staff

KUWAIT, March 21: Only a day before Kuwait's new labour law went into effect, Kuwait's business community was still debating its merits and the effect it will have on the country's economy.

Opinions varied on whether the new measures will usher in a new wave of efficiency or leave the private firms short of skilled labour.

There was a consensus on one point though — managers of hotels, transport companies, trading houses and consultancy firms contacted by the Arab Times all agreed that the new law will cost them money.

A five-star hotel manager said that new budget allocations will have to be made for the airfares of employees at the end of their three-year contracts and for those who might be sacked before their contracts expire.

Taher Shaath, the manager of Team International, a management and engineering consultancy firm, said private firms will now have to invest more in the training of their full-time employees, who will have to cover the jobs of the departing part-timers. This could vastly improve the efficiency of Kuwait's labour force, he added.

"The firms should now give their purchasing officers a short course in accountancy so that they can take the place of part-time accountants. Typists should learn to use word-processors in which they can store the whole accounting system and take care of the company's inventory," said Shaath.

If companies make sure their employees gain additional skills they will win their loyalty, something that is now largely missing in Kuwait's firms, he said.

An investment in training will also pay off in the form of increased productivity, Shaath predicted.

Part-timers have never been very productive, he added.

Shaath said the new labour law will help syphon out "junk" labour. He called on Kuwaiti employers to offer equal training opportunities to expatriates and nationals.

But he regretted that the implementation of the law had not been postponed for another three months.

"People who have part-time jobs are running around like crazy. Engineers who came into the country as drivers but got part-time engineering jobs will have to go back to driving. We shall now have accountants working as messengers and teachers working as cleaners," said Shaath.

Other businessmen expressed their reservations about the new labour law. A manager of a large trading house said it will kill the mobility of

All those who applied for a transfer of residency or change of sponsor before March 21 will not be affected by the new law, Al Shabnan said.

The official described rumours that the law would be postponed as baseless. He emphasised that the ministry has no such intentions, and that the decision to implement the law which was published in the Kuwait Gazette on Jan 22 will be enforced from today.

He admitted that there has been an increase in the number of applicants wanting to change their sponsors or residency, particularly in the past few days, but said that precise figures will not be available until the end of the month.

A special employment section for Kuwaitis and GCC citizens will be established in all labour departments in the various governorates, Al Shabnan said, adding that a centralised department will be established to co-ordinate and exchange information between the various sections.

## Bans

The new law strictly bans foreign workers from taking up employment with anyone other than the official sponsor. According to the law, any expatriate found working in two places in the private sector will be deported, with the second employer bearing the cost of deportation.

The law, however, does not apply to expatriates working in the government sector, who will continue to be able to seek part-time work elsewhere.

The law also states that the minister of labour has the right to exempt any worker from the stated time restrictions if the worker has been dismissed from their job. The ministry also has the right to transfer a work permit to another sponsor, even if the employer refuses or without referring to the employer.

The ministerial order extends the contract period for expatriate workers to three years, and states that contracts should be renewed three months prior to expiry.



Aquino praises Army

Philippine President Corason Aquino has praised her Army for freeing hundreds of villages from communist rebel influence and appealed to Congress for more funds to bring "a swift and conclusive end" to the 20-year insurgency. Aquino, at ceremonies celebrating the 92nd anniversary of the Philippine Army, spoke hours after government troops killed six rebels in a pre-dawn clash in Bataan province, 30 miles (48 kilometres) west of the capital across Manila Bay. Picture shows Aquino awarding a soldier the "Medal for Valour" during the ceremony. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Envoy meets leaders

Links to eastern Beirut cut off

BEIRUT, March 21. (Reuters) Lebanese Muslim forces cut all land links to Christian territory today, following up fierce artillery battles with an economic blockade.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's Ambassador in Damascus, Ahmed Abdulaziz Al Jassem, held talks with Christian and Muslim leaders yesterday and today in an attempt to defuse the crisis.

Jassem carries invitations for former presidents and prime ministers to attend a Tunis meeting with an Arab League committee trying to resolve Lebanon's constitutional crisis.

Christian leaders, whose troops have traded shell-fire with Muslim forces for two weeks, accused Syria of ordering the blockade, which cut supply routes for food and fuel.

Security sources said shells hit Beirut port and residential areas of Christian East Beirut today, wounding three people. Barrages yesterday engulfed Beirut and areas nearly 40 km (25 miles) away killing five people and wounding 39.

The sources said roads to the Christian enclave — East Beirut and the hills and coastal district north of it — were shut, leaving it with the port of Jounieh north of Beirut as its only link with the outside world.

Jounieh itself has been hit in the past week by shelling from the Muslim side.

The 310-square mile (800-sq. km) Christian enclave "is literally isolated from the rest of the world," a police spokesman said.

All the crossings were shut by a decision from the Syrian occupying force," said a military spokesman in East Beirut. He said the action was in line with attempts to partition Lebanon into sectarian mini-states.

Syria, the main foreign power broker in Lebanon, has about 25,000 troops in the country.

Lebanon's Christian and Muslim sectors are heavily interdependent for basic commodities, most carried by truck.

The Christian area supplies West Beirut with flour, petrol and cooking gas while Muslim areas provide East Beirut with fruit and vegetables.

Political sources said the Muslims were retaliating against a sea and air blockade imposed by Christian Army commander Major General Michel Aoun on illegal ports.

The incumbent cabinet led by Sunni Muslim Selim Al Hoss refused to step down, leaving Lebanon with two opposed governments.

Three Irish peace-keeping soldiers serving with the UN Interim Force in Southern Lebanon were killed today in a landmine explosion, a UNIFIL spokesman said.

## Expats will be able to invest

New Kuwaiti scheme

By Jadranka Porter  
Arab Times staff

KUWAIT is to launch a new investment scheme which will for the first time grant expatriates the right to invest locally on equal terms with Kuwaiti nationals.

Real estate funds, as a new investment instrument, will invest money raised from small investors who will not be given the corporate ownership privileges that stockholders have.

The funds are primarily aimed at middle-class Kuwaitis, smaller businesses and expatriates who are unable to make overseas investments, said Abdul Rahman Al Hamood, a member of a special committee at the Kuwait Stock Exchange which proposed the scheme.

Hamood, who is also the general manager of Alshall Real Estate Consultancy and Services Co., said the funds would be of particular benefit to Arab expatriates with long residence in Kuwait, such as Palestinians, Jordanians and Egyptians, who are unfamiliar with overseas investment opportunities.

The plan is to be submitted next week to Fatwa wa Tashree, a legal body which is expected to give the scheme a final seal of approval and issue legislation governing the funds establishment and management, Dr Safaq Al Rekaibi of the Kuwait Stock Exchange told the Arab Times.

The funds will help soak up excess liquidity on the local market.

"There is too much money chasing too few opportunities," said Al Hamood.

The funds, which are planned to be set up by reputable real estate companies starting in June, will issue units of various denominations. The real estate companies will then launch an advertising campaign to market the funds. They will also approach their existing clientele with the scheme.

The funds will be registered at the stock market where the units will be traded. A secondary market will also be created, with market makers buying and selling the units on the stock market. Fund managers will also buy back the units from any investors willing to sell.

Al Hamood said that 75 to 80 per cent of the funds will be invested on the local market, while the rest of the money will be placed in overseas property and real estate companies.

A committee, to be appointed by the Kuwait Stock Exchange, will exercise a tight control of the funds operation. Its task will be to make sure fund managers meet the legal requirements, maintain a certain level of liquidity, use external auditors and engage foreign firms to appraise the property they are investing in. The committee will be authorised to check the issuers' books, and dismiss or appoint new fund managers, Hamood said.

Fund managers will be required to make quarterly public reports on their operation.

Among the companies which are certain to set up real estate funds are Alshall, which initiated the scheme, and the Kuwait Finance House.

Alshall hopes to raise KD10 million by issuing KD1,000 units, Hamood said. It will charge investors a management fee of one per cent and will also collect 10 per cent of their profits. The investments will be divided

(Continued on Page 7)

## Dispute settled

Indian workers to be repatriated

By Fathima Ahmed  
Arab Times staff

A MONTHS-long dispute involving 900 wageless Indian workers has been settled, the Arab Times has learned.

A breakthrough was reached in talks started by New Delhi, with the result that the main contractor was persuaded to pay the workers KD94,000 in back wages.

The employer also agreed to bear the cost of repatriating the workers.

The Kuwait Foreign Ministry

played a vital role in resolving the dispute, according to sources.

The workers are owed more than KD135,000, representing four months' wages for the 900 workers.

The labourers stand a chance of getting the rest of their wages if they win their case, which is already in the labour court.

The workers will be repatriated on regular flights to India after the necessary paperwork has been completed, sources said.

The dispute started on Jan 21

when the labourers went on strike. It was the third time they had gone on strike since August of last year.

All 900 workers are expected to be sent home by the end of this month.

The breakthrough came earlier this week after months of negotiations between the Indian embassy, the employer and Kuwaiti government officials.

The workers have been living in the camp in appalling conditions. Conditions at the camp have been deteriorating every day.

## Blaspheming over Rushdie's novel

NEW DELHI, March 21. (Agencies) Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was quoted today as saying Muslims were blaspheming by professing their outrage over British author Salman Rushdie's novel 'The Satanic Verses'.

"I don't know how much Muslims have to gain from keeping this whole Rushdie affair alive. If you repeat a blasphemy you commit a blasphemy," she said in an interview published in the Indian Express newspaper.

Police used tear-gas to disperse about 500 demonstrators in Karachi after more than 100 cars and motorcycles were set ablaze in an ethnic protest today, authorities said. (See EEC decision Page 4)



Remember when?

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke (left) wiping a tear yesterday after confessing that he had been unfaithful to his wife Hazel. In the file picture (right) Hawke is seen dancing with his wife. (Reuters wirephoto)



See cheating on wife, Page 3.

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○ کویت میں نئے لبر قانون پر عمل شروع ہو گیا  
○ مجاہدین قذافی اور برات کے بیچارے کریں گے  
○ بنگلہ دیش میں رشدی کے خلاف عام ہڑال  
○ پاکستان میں احمدیوں کے سالانہ اجتماع پر پابندی

## WEATHER

NORMAL weather with light to moderate south-easterly wind.  
State of sea: slight to moderate  
High water: 12.30 pm  
Low water: 7.00 am, 7.00 pm  
Sunrise: 5.30 am  
Sunset: 6.01 pm  
Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 24°C 75°F  
Abu Dhabi: 20°C 68°F  
Fahala: 20°C 68°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 12°C 54°F  
Abu Dhabi: 14°C 57°F  
Fahala: 15°C 59°F  
Maximum temperatures expected:  
Kuwait: 25°C 77°F  
Abu Dhabi: 21°C 70°F  
Fahala: 21°C 70°F  
Minimum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 95 per cent  
Abu Dhabi: 80 per cent  
Fahala: 95 per cent



# Sinhalese call for protest strike

COLOMBO, March 21. (KUNA): The government today sounded a nationwide alert following a strike call by the Sinhalese extremists, military officials said here.

The officials at the joint operations command said, the Sinhalese People's Liberation Front

had put up posters in some parts of Colombo calling on the people to stop work tomorrow to protest "the fraudulent parliamentary polls of February 15."

The Front has ordered closure of shops, businesses and other state and commercial establish-

ments and has ordered the people to hoist black flags over their houses.

Residents from the Sinhalese dominated towns of southern province and the north central Anuradhapura district also reported posters ordering for a strike today.

"The posters say the strike is also to protest the massacres of Sinhalese by the Indian troops and a Tamil militant group in the north and east and by the Lankan forces in the south," the residents told KUNA over the telephone.

Last week local Sinhalese and

English newspapers quoting police officials said the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), which governs the north-eastern provincial council, carried out the massacre of 34 Sinhala civilians in a village bordering the northern province.

## Third bomb warning

## Channon faces sharp criticism

LONDON, March 21. (Agencies): At the centre of the controversy over bomb warnings before the Pan Am flight 103 disaster is a British political confrontation: a millionaire cabinet minister vs. an ex-writer leading an opposition onslaught.

For Transport Secretary Paul Channon, son of a British brewing heiress and an American socialist, the Dec 21 crash over Scotland was the lowpoint in a string of rail, air and sea disasters in the past two years.

From his departure for a vacation at his private villa in the Caribbean on Dec 23 through mounting charges over the past five days that he bungled bomb warnings, Channon has faced sharp criticism from railmen's son John Prescott, the opposition Labour Party's transport spokesman.

"My response is one of contempt," Channon said over the weekend. "His behaviour has been both callous and cynical... he is exploiting the grief of the bereaved."

The latest furore began after a newspaper revealed last week that Channon's department warned British Airlines Nov 22 of a radio-cassette bomb, four days after the US Federal Aviation Administration sent the same

warning to US airlines, including Pan Am.

A detailed description and picture of the bomb dated Dec 19 was mailed early this year by the Transport Department to British Airlines and US airlines — well after a radio-cassette bomb brought down flight 103 over the Scottish village of Lockerbie, killing 270 people.

Despite unattributable briefings from Conservative Party Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's aides that she still supports him, the 54-year-old Channon looks increasingly defensive as Prescott hammers home charges of cavalier and secretive behaviour.

Meanwhile the Transport Department warned British airports and airlines for a third time yesterday to beware of terrorist bombs hidden in radio-cassette players.

The telex was issued as the US and British governments were criticised for giving inadequate warnings of a possible terrorist attack.

The warning said the risk from booby-trapped electronic devices is "high and continuing," and outlined new steps airlines should take to detect them, a department spokesman said.

## Police hunt for killers as IRA slays 2 officers

BELFAST, March 21. (UPI): Police swept the countryside near the Irish border today, searching for the Irish Republican Army guerrillas who killed two senior police officers, believed to be carrying sensitive documents after a security meeting with their Irish counterparts.

Secretary of State for Northern Ireland Tom King ordered a major review of security surrounding security talks between Irish and Royal Ulster Constabulary police chiefs.

RUC chief superintendent Harry Breen and his deputy, Bob Buchanan, were gunned down only yards (metres) from the border yesterday after a secret meeting with Irish police in Dundalk, 50 miles (80 km) south of Belfast.

Breen was the highest-ranking policeman to die violently since British troops were ordered to Northern Ireland 20 years ago. Their deaths raised the number of people killed this year in the province to 26.

Police chiefs also moved quickly to dismiss speculation that an informer infiltrated the Irish police force and tipped off the IRA's South Armagh Brigade when the two officers left their meeting in Dundalk.

RUC chief superintendent Patrick McCullough said, "there isn't any evidence to suggest that is the case."

King ordered the security review after senior officers told him they were highly concerned about documents and materials the IRA may have taken from their victims, police sources said.

They said the highly classified information may jeopardize the lives of police and civilians involved in border security, and years of planning may have to be scrapped.

Breen was responsible for security operations along the border. A police spokesman said the nature of his work was so sensitive he could not make record of his information.

## Reagan speaks on budget

## 'End two-term limit'

TEMPE, Arizona, March 21. (AP): Former President Reagan kept his promise to continue speaking on favourite issues by calling for a balanced budget amendment and an end to the two-term limit for presidents.

"If I'd had a third term, I would have gone to full combat on the budget, even if it meant shutting down the government," Reagan said yesterday in a speech at Arizona State University.

The former chief executive has made a few public appearances since leaving office in January,

but he addressed a broader range of issues in his latest speech than previously.

Reagan blamed a familiar target for failing to balance the federal budget.

"The Congress of the United States is not psychologically prepared for a balanced budget, and they will not be until there is an amendment which requires one," he told a crowd of 12,000 at a student-leadership conference.

Reagan urged repeal of the 22nd Amendment, which limits the president term of office.

# World warned of disaster

## Environmental research report

NEW YORK, March 21. (AP): Unchecked pollution, land mismanagement and population growth have pushed the world to the brink of an environmental disaster: a global food shortage that could starve millions, the Worldwatch Institute says.

The environmental research group, which has surveyed the earth's condition annually since 1984, has issued perhaps its grimmest report, "The State of the World 1989."

"We are losing at this point, clearly losing the battle to save the planet," said the report's chief author, Lester R. Brown. The impending result, he warned, "will shake the world to its foundation."

Yet a glimmer of optimism lightened Brown's message at a briefing on the Worldwatch findings last week. With growing awareness of the hazards at hand, he said, a new political consensus is arising that may defeat them.

## Soviets reduce armed forces

### Cut in defence spending

MOSCOW, March 21. (Agencies): Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev signed a decree today to cut the Soviet Union's armed forces by half a million personnel in 1989-90 and substantially reduce defence spending, the official news agency Tass said.

The decree was earlier approved by the presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the highest state body.

It orders the government to carry out cuts already announced by Gorbachev, who said in December Moscow would unilaterally reduce its armed forces by 500,000 men over the next two years.

In January, Gorbachev announced Soviet military spending would be reduced by 14.2 per cent of its present secret figure over an unspecified length of time.

Tass said the Soviet government was taking the measures "to bring the armed forces into line with present Soviet military doctrine, giving a more defensive nature to their organisational structure."

It said the goal was "maintaining the country's defence capability at the level of reasonable and reliable sufficiency and continuing to scale down defence spending."

"The numerical strength of the Soviet armed forces is to be reduced by 500,000 men within 1989-1990," Tass said.

Meanwhile, the official media today stepped up its smear campaign against former Moscow Communist Party boss and current parliamentary candidate Boris Yeltsin, attempting to link him with a radical dissident group.

Members of the Soviet Academy of Sciences voted today to elect delegates to a new national parliament with human rights activist Andrei D. Sakharov seeking a "surgical strike" to defeat old-guard candidates in favour of reformers.

A Soviet magazine brought Alexander Solzhenitsyn closer to official rehabilitation by printing an essay that the Nobel laureate wrote just before being exiled 15 years ago.



## Jackpot winners

James and Treasa Watson, both from Georgia, hold a replica of their first cheque during a press conference in Tallahassee, Florida. The Watsons were introduced as the winners of a \$23.4 million jackpot. They bought \$100 worth of tickets and also won several other amounts. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Police disperse mobs in township unrest

### 12 detained and 3 injured

JOHANNESBURG, March 21. (UPI): Police used buckshot and tear-gas today to disperse mobs of blacks stoning buses in a surge of township unrest marking the 29th anniversary of the "Sharpeville massacre" in which 69 blacks protesting apartheid laws died in police gunfire.

The government, meanwhile, trying to defuse an embarrassing diplomatic incident, said release orders for four black political prisoners have been signed and the men are "legally free" to leave the West German embassy where they sought refuge after escaping from a Johannesburg hospital.

A police bulletin issued at midday reported incidents of violence in 10 black townships that included stone and gasoline-bomb attacks on an undetermined number of buses. At least 12 people were arrested and three injured, including a bus driver.

Police also fired about five rounds of tear-gas to disperse

400 students marching at Johannesburg's Witwatersrand University after a memorial service for the victims of the 1960 killings in the black township of Sharpeville over "pass laws" for South African blacks.

Security forces aboard armoured personnel carriers patrolled Sharpeville, 25 miles (60 km) south of Johannesburg, but kept a discreet distance as mourners engaged in the annual tradition of cleaning the graves of the victims at daybreak.

Police vehicles also were deployed outside the church during a service, but no incidents were reported.

Mobs in black townships of Natal stoned and damaged a number of buses and erected barricades in a bid to keep thousands of labourers and students at home in the day of protest. The police report said lawmen "used tear-gas and birdshot to disperse the groups."



North Korean agent Kim Hyon-Hui goes on trial in Seoul for planting the bombs which destroyed a South Korean airliner. (Reuters wirephoto).

## KAL bomber goes on trial in Seoul

### Victims' relatives call for blood

SEOUL, March 21. (Agencies): A North Korean woman on trial for placing a time-bomb on a Korean Air Lines jetliner, killing all 115 people aboard, told the court today she deserves to die without a hearing.

Kim Hyon-Hui, 27, appeared before a three-judge panel of the Seoul district criminal court for the second time, amid tight security. About 1,500 policemen were posted around the courthouse to prevent an attempt on her life.

Looking frightened as family members of victims shouted and cursed at her in the courtroom, she said she told her lawyers not to defend her because she feels she should be punished for her crime.

Enraged relatives of some of the victims screamed for the blood of the self-confessed saboteur.

Relatives howled abuse and pounded chairs before storming out of the Seoul court, denouncing the trial of Kim as a farce.

One wailing woman threw a shoe at the defendant. It missed and guards formed a human wall around Kim to stop the relative

from attacking her.

The relative struggled with guards and the judge ordered her to leave, prompting the nine other relatives present to storm out of the court jeering and shouting curses.

"After hearing the grievous cries of the bereaved family members at the last court session, I felt that I deserve death without hearings," she told the court, sobbing.

"I am extremely annoyed because I cannot do anything at this time to help the grieving people. I will feel happy if my death can be a solace to the souls of the dead and their family members," she said.

Under questioning by judges and defence attorneys, Kim said she bombed the KAL plane as instructed by authorities of communist North Korea, including President Kim Il-Sung and his son Kim Jong-Il.

"I carried out the bombing convinced that it was one way of helping a revolution in South Korea and the reunification of the fatherland," Kim said. "Now I endlessly curse the Kims for ordering the attack."

## Call for unity

## Cristiani wins Salvador presidential election

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, March 21. (AP): Alfredo Cristiani, the rightist victor in the presidential election, says he has assured US officials of his commitment to human rights despite his party's past image and links to death squads.

The coffee baron swept to a first-round victory in Sunday's voting on the ticket of the Republican nationalist alliance, known as Arena.

Cristiani defeated the candidate of the incumbent Christian Democrats, lawyer Fidel Chavez Mena, by about 20 percentage points, unofficial returns show. As many as half the country's registered voters did not cast ballots, however.

The official vote count is expected on Thursday, but election officials say it is clear Arena won with more than 50 per cent of the vote.

Cristiani, elected to a five-year term, called yesterday on all of El Salvador's political parties to unite in the search for peace and prosperity and "of course elimin-

ating... violence and human rights violations."

Cristiani says he represents a more moderate Arena than the party founded by dismissed Army major Roberto D'Aubuisson, who was once called a "pathological killer" by former US Ambassador Robert White. D'Aubuisson has always denied death squad links.

D'Aubuisson, called Arena's "maximum leader," holds no official party position but was at Cristiani's side throughout the campaign.

Cristiani said D'Aubuisson, a national legislator, will not have a position in the new government.

US election observers said they emphasised the human rights question when they met with Cristiani.

Opponents of US aid to El Salvador turned out in force to protest the policy, leading to brawls between police and demonstrators in San Francisco and the arrests of more than 250 people nationwide.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Plane crash in Brazil

SAO PAULO, March 21. (Reuters): A Transbrasil Boeing 707 cargo plane slammed into an apartment building and then into a crowded shanty town slum today in a crash that officials said killed at least 18 people and injured up to 200 others.

The plane crashed about two kilometres (one mile) from Sao Paulo international airport, doctors at the scene said.

They said the plane's crew of three and at least 15 people on the ground were killed while dozens more were injured.

Television reports said up to 200 were hurt.

### Boy survives

KUALA LUMPUR, March 21. (AP): A 2-year-old boy who plunged 15 floors down an apartment house rubbish chute suffered only bruises when he landed on a pile of garbage, according to news reports in Malaysia today.

Firdaus Zainal Abidin had been playing with other children yesterday when the youngster's sister told their father the boy was missing, the New Straits Times, a national English daily, reported from Penang, 300 kilometres (180 miles) northwest of the capital.

### Workers flee in panic

ATHENS, March 21. (Reuters): Airport maintenance crew working on a closed runway fled in panic today when an Olympic Airways Boeing 737 landed on the wrong strip, airport officials said.

"It was total madness. The plane headed straight for the maintenance crews and they started running for their lives. Fortunately the pilot managed to turn the aircraft on another strip just in time," an airport spokesman said.

### Paintings stolen

ATHENS, March 21. (AP): A housekeeper left in charge of several hundred paintings by a leading Greek artist, Nikos Hadjikyriakos Ghika, sold and gave away more than 50 of the works while the painter was out of the country, police said today.

Maria Nanda Nusk told police she sold 20 of the paintings to an art dealer for 25 million drachmas (\$160,000) and spent the money "living it up."

### Japan-Soviet talks

TOKYO, March 21. (AP): Japan and the Soviet Union ended three days of working-level meetings today unable to reach agreement on a longstanding territorial dispute that is preventing conclusion of a peace treaty, a Foreign Ministry official said.

The two sides spent the final day discussing a series of Soviet-occupied islands off northern Japan, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

### Bus collision

SEOUL, March 21. (AP): Four persons were killed and more than 60 injured today when an inter-city bus collided with two buses full of high school girls in southern Korea, the Yonhap news agency reported.

### 9,000 expelled

DHAKA, March 21. (Reuters): Bangladesh's Education Minister said nearly 9,000 students had been expelled for cheating in school final examinations in just three days, the highest total in the nation's history.

## Merits still debated

(Continued from Page 1)

Kuwait's labour force. "We already face restrictions on bringing in new labourers. With part-timers gone who will I turn to?" asked a manager of a freight and forwarding firm.

Employers also bemoaned the fact that they will not be able to hire and fire as they used to. They said they will face difficulties in firing employees on humanitarian grounds, and at the same time fear they might not find an adequate replacement for the sacked worker.

"It will be difficult to fire someone knowing that the only choice he has is to leave the country," said one employer.

The employers appeared to have little faith in Kuwaiti and Gulf nationals whom they might have to employ if they lose all expatriate workers.

A number of businessmen said the law took them by surprise and that they were not clear of how it will be implemented. "With the ceasefire in the Gulf war, we expected the authorities to ease up the labour regulations to encourage business activity. I don't think this law will help the economy," said one businessman.

Another complained that the law is not straightforward enough. "I will hire a lawyer to tell me what it means for me," he said.

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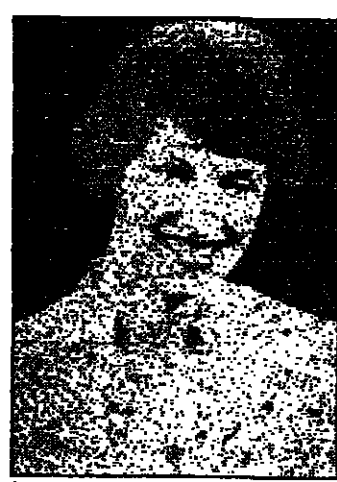
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Desire to give a gift of life

# Baby M's story

PHILADELPHIA, March 21. (Reuters): She was poor, uneducated and unhappily married. For \$10,000 she rented her womb to an infertile couple but broke her promise and ran off with the baby.



Surrogate mother Elizabeth Stern, a well-to-do, educated couple.

The public perception of me was of a three-headed monster," said Mary Beth Whitehead. "But I never had a chance to tell my side of the story."

Now, the United States' most famous surrogate mother has written "A Mother's Story: The truth about the Baby M case".

Her side of the story portrays a woman who never cared about money and who was solely motivated by a desire to give the gift of life to an infertile couple.

"A Mother's Story" is being given a major promotional push with 100,000 copies in print.

The book presents an often dramatic account of a woman alone, standing up to the world in a fight to hold onto her baby.

It was on March 27, 1986 that Whitehead, then a 28-year-old New Jersey housewife and mother of two, gave birth to the baby girl she called Sara.

Contract She had signed a contract arranged by the Infertility Centre of New York, agreeing to be artificially inseminated by William Stern and to hand over the baby to Stern and his wife Elizabeth.

But after delivery she refused the money and fled to Florida with the baby.

Through the subsequent court hearings and in a television mini-series, Whitehead was generally perceived as the villain.

A parade of psychiatrists labelled her emotionally unstable and unfit to be a mother.

A New Jersey county court judge declared the contract legal, and awarded custody of the baby, now known as Melissa, to

mouse in a maze," she gestured in a circular motion with her forefinger.

"I couldn't find the door." It was during this period that she made a threat to Bill Stern that she would kill the baby — a threat that was tape recorded by Stern and later played in court and on television.

"Here was this man, trying to take away my baby. He had all the cards — money, a good attorney, a judge totally on his side. I had nothing. I thought: 'If for a minute I can get him to think I'm going to hurt this baby then maybe he'll back off.'"

She says the Infertility Centre never informed her that their psychologist doubted her potential for surrogacy and said she would have trouble giving up the baby. Instead, she says, she was told she had passed the test.

Whitehead says she was told by the centre's lawyer that the "contract" was not worth the paper it was printed on, and that no one could take the baby away from her if she changed her mind.

Today Whitehead is spokeswoman for a national organisation against commercial surrogacy. She believes there are no conditions under which it can be justified.

The child will someday feel the pain of it. Not only will they have to come to grips with a mother who sold them, but with a father who bought them."

But why did she sign the contract to begin with?

"I was stupid. I didn't think about it. I definitely made a mistake, but I paid for it at least 20 times over."

Then after a pause she added: "This was my child. The reason I fought so hard was that I wanted her to know I exhausted every single avenue and stopped at nothing in order to correct my wrong."

"I called Legal Aid. I called the American Civil Liberties Union, I even called Congressmen. They all turned me down. I felt like a

## Hawke cheating on his wife

SYDNEY, March 21. (Reuters): Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke, with tears in his eyes, has confessed to being unfaithful to his wife, Hazel.

Hawke's admission in a pre-recorded television interview, made available to Reuters, is to be broadcast by the commercial Channel Seven network tonight.

"You have also been accused of being a womaniser. What do they mean by womaniser?", the

interviewer asked.

"They mean I was unfaithful to my wife," the prime minister said.

"Is that true?", he was asked. "Yes," Hawke said, but added that his infidelity had stopped.

"She understood that it was part of a pretty volatile, exuberant character, and she knew my love for her had never changed," said the 58-year-old

prime minister, who was a hard-drinking trade union chief in his younger days.

"I have always loved Hazel and always will," he said.

Hawke is seeking an unprecedented fourth term of national leadership for his Labour Party in elections expected later this year.

He and Hazel, who recently underwent a facelift operation, started going out together at the

age of 17, more than 40 years ago. "I guess there are not many women who would have put up with me all that time," Hawke said.

It was not the first time Hawke publicly bared his soul since he became prime minister six years ago.

In 1984, he broke down and cried during a televised news conference about drug abuse. Hazel later revealed their daughter and

son-in-law had been heroin addicts.

Hawke said his infidelity, like his heavy drinking, was now behind him.

"But it was getting to the stage where at the end of the day I was looking forward too much to a drink. I thought that was pretty unimpressive."

Hawke gave up alcohol around the time he entered parliament in 1980.

Missile code being modified

## US admits launch errors

WASHINGTON, March 21. (AP): The US Air Force quietly modified its procedures for loading launch codes in Minuteman nuclear missiles after discovering three years ago that some of the weapons had been accidentally rendered inoperative.

The service, responding to a published report, acknowledged that some Minuteman 3 missiles at Malmstrom Air Force base in Montana could not have been fired in 1986 if the United States had gone to war because they didn't have the right launch codes inside their internal computers.

The Air Force said the precise cause of the mistake was never determined, but "inadvertent personnel

error was the most likely cause."

The procedures for loading new codes into the missiles have been overhauled and no repeat of the incident has occurred since 1986, the Air Force added.

While refusing to detail all the changes made in the code-loading procedures, the Air Force said one involves a complete double-check in which a second team of technicians enters a code to verify codes after a first team has completed the programming.

The Air Force agreed to discuss the matter yesterday in response to a report in the Washington Times.



Tension in Bastia

A striking CGT Union member returns a tear-gas canister fired by riot police as a demonstration degenerated outside the administrative centre in Bastia, Corsica. Strikes continue on the island in protest against high cost of living. (Reuters wirephoto)

DC or Dodge City

## Violence rising in Washington

WASHINGTON, March 21. (UPI): Senator Mark Hatfield, Republican-Oregon, witnessed a shooting in the American capital last week in which one person was wounded and did not notify the police, although he did tell several colleagues, a television station reported today.

A spokesman said Hatfield did not report the incident to police because he "considered it just another shooting in the nation's capital," WUSA-TV said.

Hatfield was driving with his wife and son from a Capitol Hill dinner about 10:30 pm March 14, when he "found himself caught between a gunman and the gunman's intended victim," WUSA said, attributing the report to the senator's press secretary.

The station said Hatfield, whose car was stopped at an intersection, saw "flashes" and heard "about five gunshots" and saw that the victim evidently had suffered a leg wound but managed to limp to a nearby car.

The gunman then lowered his weapon "in the direction of the senator's car," and Hatfield "sped off," WUSA said.

"A spokesman in the senator's office said the shooting happened extremely quickly. He said the senator did not report the incident because he had little

information and, according to the spokesman, the senator considered it just another shooting in the nation's capital," WUSA reported.

Tough measures

Meanwhile, President Bush is considering tough measures aimed at curbing drug violence in the nation's capital, including a ban on some kinds of guns and the possible use of federal troops, the New York Times reported today.

In a statement that may upset the gun lobby, Bush told visiting state lawmakers that he has ordered drug czar William Bennett to review the issue of semi-automatic weapons to determine if more models should be banned.

Bush's announcement came a week after the President banned the import of semi-automatic assault rifles, pending a review of whether the military-style weapons are being used for sporting purposes.

The President also said he planned to battle Washington's drug problem on "all different fronts" making the nation's capital a "test case" of the government's ability to control drug-related crime, the newspaper said.

## No final word on how the Midland jet crashed

LONDON, March 21. (AP): Investigators have found no evidence of fire or incorrect wiring in the right-hand engine of a British Midland Airways jetliner that crashed in January, an interim report said.

The right-hand engine was shut off and the left-hand engine on fire when the plane crashed, the report said.

A bulletin issued by the government's air accident investigation branch confirmed passengers' reports of a fire in the left-hand engine of the brand-new Boeing 737, and said one of its fan blades had fractured.

But it did not reach any conclusion about the cause of the Jan 8 crash, which killed 47 people, saying "much work" remains to be done on the investigation.

The bulletin quoted the flight crew as saying the cockpit instruments confirmed their belief that they had resolved their onboard emergency by shutting off the right engine, and that the left engine was operating normally.

The report said Capt. Kevin Hunt and first officer David McLelland noticed moderate to severe vibration, a burning smell and smoke 13 minutes into the flight from London's Heathrow airport to Belfast.

Fire

It said they believed this indicated a fire in the right engine which they shut down two minutes and seven seconds later.

"By that time, power had been reduced on the left engine, which continued to operate at comparatively low power," the report said.

"After the accident the commander (Hunt) stated that during the remainder of the descent the indications from the engine instruments were such as to confirm that the emergency had been successfully concluded and that the left engine was operating normally."

The left engine lost power when the airplane was 2.4 nautical miles from central England's East Midlands airport and 900 feet (300 metres) above ground, and Hunt told the McLelland to restart the right engine, the report said.

## New treatment for wrinkles and acne

WASHINGTON, March 21. (Reuters): Scientists have developed a new form of Vitamin A that they believe could help treat acne and wrinkles without the risks of side effects associated with existing treatments.

Researchers from Iowa State University have come up with a water-soluble form of Vitamin A that they say is easily absorbed by the body and is safer than other approved forms.

The findings of their research into Vitamin A, also called retinol, were reported on Monday at a meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology in New Orleans. The group issued a news release on the study in Washington.

Other derivatives of Vitamin A, soluble in fats, oils and alcohols, are toxic if consumed in large amounts, and some scientists believe they could lead to birth defects.

The researchers said tests on pregnant rats showed the new compound did not damage foetuses even when given in large doses. In similar experiments using fat-soluble retinoic acid, another form of Vitamin A, all the rat foetuses died.

Drugs that have been approved in the United States to treat acne and wrinkling, such as Retin A and Accutane, all contain forms of retinoic acid. Retin A is used in creams and ointments, while Accutane is taken in tablet form.

## World flight

Concorde to take off April 1

NEW YORK, March 21. (AP): A British Airways Concorde jet with some well-heeled passengers aboard will make the first all-supersonic flight around the world beginning April 1, the British airline announced.

The three-week trip, covering 38,215 miles (61,500 kilometres) in a planned total flying time of 35 hours and one minute, could set more than a dozen world speed records, British Airways said. The average speed of the supersonic jet will be 1,091.3 miles (1,755 kilometres) per hour.

The trip will start in London on April 1 and finish there on April 23. The Concorde aircraft, part of British Airways' fleet, has been chartered by Lorraine Travel Bureau Inc., a tour operator based in Miami. The fare is \$39,000 per person based on double occupancy or \$40,500 for a single passenger.

The round-trip fare on normal Concorde flights, between New York and London for example, is around \$6,400.

The fare for the special trip includes luxury hotels, meals and sight-seeing in most of the cities where the Concorde will stop on its way around the world. Other cities will only be fuel stops.

Among some of the hotels that will be used on the trip are Las Brisas Hotel in Acapulco, the Westin Mauna Kea Hotel in Hawaii, the Tahiti Beachcomber Hotel on the South Pacific island and the Savoy Hotel in London.

The trip itinerary and planned flying times are:

- London to New York, departs April 1, flying time of three hours and 20 minutes.
- New York to Acapulco, Mexico, April 1, two hours and 53 minutes.
- Acapulco to Oakland, California, April 3, two hours and nine minutes.
- Oakland to Honolulu, April 3, two hours and 17 minutes.
- Honolulu to Paapeete, Tahiti, April 5, two hours and 28 minutes.
- Paapeete to Christchurch, New Zealand, April 8, two hours and 38 minutes.
- Christchurch to Sydney, Australia, April 12, one hour and 26 minutes.
- Sydney to Perth, Australia, April 14, two hours and 40 minutes.
- Perth to Colombo, Sri Lanka, April 15, three hours and 19 minutes.

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## Turkey regrets Iran's stance

ANKARA, March 21, (UPI): The Speaker of the Turkish National Assembly expressed "great surprise and sorrow" that the Iranian Parliament had interfered in Turkey's internal affairs.

Yildirim Akbulut, the Turkish National Assembly speaker, made his remarks hours after Tehran Radio said 150 deputies in the Iranian Parliament made a statement strongly criticising Turkish President Kenan Evren.

The radio said the deputies were reacting, in a letter to the Iranian Parliament speaker, against a decision by Turkey's constitutional court upholding a ban on the use of the Islamic headress by women students on Turkish universities campuses.

Akbulut said it was "with surprise and sorrow" that he noted the Iranian Parliament had interfered in Turkey's internal affairs. "No country is permitted" to interfere in the internal affairs of another, he said.

**Secularism**

The Turkish republic was a "democratic and secular state" in which "secularism is the guarantee for freedom of religion and thought," and the Turkish nation adhered to these principles "with great determination," the National Assembly speaker said.

Tehran Radio said the Iranian deputies asked the "government and Foreign Ministry" in Tehran to "regulate its diplomatic, cultural and economic relations" with Turkey in accordance with this government's policies towards Islam and Muslims.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman in Ankara declined immediate comment on the action in the Iranian Parliament, saying it was for the Turkish National Assembly to respond.

### Opposition's vow

The leader of Iran's main opposition group, based in Iraq, vowed in a New Year speech to quickly topple the government in Tehran.

"The (rebel) National Liberation Army will bring about the inevitable overthrow of the clerical regime soon," Masoud Rajavi, head of the Mujahideen Khalq, said in a speech sent to Reuters.

Marking the first day of the Iranian New Year, Rajavi said "the past year was a year of crushing defeats for (Iranian) spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini and great victories for the resistance."

### Swap of POWs

Iran has insisted on the return of more than 700 Iranians captured by Iraq since the two nations began their truce in August.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein proposed March 5 that all 100,000 prisoners held by both sides be exchanged outside the framework of the peace talks. The talks have been deadlocked since they opened in Geneva on Aug. 25.

In a letter to the International Committee of the Red Cross released Monday, Iran noted that it had informed the Red Cross that Iraq seized over 700 Iranians, mostly soldiers, in the first weeks after the truce began Aug. 20.

Iran said the detention of the Iranians violates the Third Geneva Convention regulating the treatment of POWs, and called on the Red Cross to pressure Iraq to release them.

"It is worth noting that during the first round of negotiations in Geneva for the implementation of Resolution 598, the foreign minister of Iraq announced the said prisoners would be released soon," Iran's letter said, referring to the UN Security Council's peace plan.

The Red Cross has registered 50,182 prisoners held by Iran and 19,284 held by Iraq, but UN officials and diplomats the total number of POWs is about 100,000.

### Trial of Iraqi

An Iraqi arrested in Turkey two weeks ago will be tried on charges of spying for Baghdad against Iran, police said.

Said Seyh Kasim was likely to appear before a military court and could face a maximum of five years in jail, said Yahya Kutuk, head of Ankara's political police department.

His connections and activities in Turkey are being investigated," Kutuk told Reuters. He said Kasim had several aliases.

Hurriyet newspaper said Kasim was an Iraqi Army officer who had lived on and off in Turkey for the past 13 years.

Turkey borders Iran and Iraq and was neutral in their eight-year war. A ceasefire was declared in August.

# Rebels likely to attack Kandahar soon

## Najib asks UN to monitor Afghan-Pakistan border

ISLAMABAD, March 21, (Agencies): Muslim rebels are preparing their second offensive against communist government forces since last month's Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, diplomatic sources said today.

The first offensive by the rebels, known as the mujahideen, was at a stalemate at the Afghan provincial capital of Jalalabad.

Western diplomats, speaking in Islamabad on condition of anonymity, said the mujahideen

may soon attack the airport of the southeastern provincial capital of Kandahar.

The coalition of seven Afghan rebel groups is based in Islamabad.

Diplomats said an attack on Kandahar, Afghanistan's recent capital and its second-largest city, could take enough pressure off the rebels at Jalalabad to allow them to regain momentum.

Guerrilla sources confirmed that an airport assault is part of

their strategy, but they have declined to say when. One diplomatic source said it probably would occur in the "near future."

Such a move could reduce the communists' concentration of aerial firepower on rebels who now are fighting to seize the eastern city of Jalalabad, about 42 miles (70 kilometres) from the Afghan-Pakistan border.

The mujahideen have captured Jalalabad's key garrison and have penetrated the city's

defences since they began attacking on March 6.

However, government forces have halted their progress with massive air and artillery bombardments that reportedly have caused hundreds of casualties among rebels and civilians.

Jalalabad marked the mujahideen's first major offensive since Soviet troops ended nine years of military involvement in the war on Feb. 15.

The Afghan news agency, associated with fundamentalist

rebel leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, said today the mujahideen were preparing to launch a second assault on Jalalabad.

The capture of the city, some 75 miles (125 kilometres) east of the capital, Kabul, would be a major boost for the insurgents, whose aim is to establish an Islamic republic in Afghanistan.

But Afghan President Najibullah, insists his forces were well supplied by the departing Red Army and are strong enough to survive prolonged muja-

hedeem attacks.

In a speech broadcast to his nation marking the Afghan new year, Najibullah called on the United Nations to monitor on the Afghan-Pakistan border to halt a mujahideen offensive. He repeated his accusations that Pakistani militiamen and officers as well as Afghan guerrillas were crossing the border.

Government troops will hold Afghanistan's major cities, but the insurgents control about 90 per cent of the countryside.



An Israeli peace activist restrained by police outside the international Jewish solidarity conference. (Reuters wirephoto)

## No peace talks without PLO

### Uprising to continue

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 21, (Agencies): Officials today confirmed an Israeli intelligence report presented to Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's government that concluded there were no Palestinians who could negotiate a peace with Israel other than the PLO.

The assessment by Army and other intelligence branches also said the 15-month-old Palestinian uprising could go on indefinitely unless such a political solution to the Palestinian problem is reached, said the officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The officials said the assessment also saw a possibility of the rebellion becoming more violent, with the use of weapons by Palestinians who have relied so far on stones and firebombs.

The comments by several government sources follow accounts in Israeli newspapers, saying the new intelligence report judges the PLO has undergone a substantive change and wants "a realistic political settlement."

Presented to both the cabinet and parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee, the intelligence report predicted the United States would maintain its dialogue with the PLO despite pressure from Israel to halt the talks, the officials told the Associated Press.

The report was critical of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, saying he was unable to control all PLO factions and he had used violence to put down any challenge to his group's authority as sole representative of the Palestinians, the officials added.

An Army spokesman confirmed that an annual intelligence situation report on the PLO had been presented but declined to divulge details.

One defence official, however, said a second part of the report was not leaked, and noted that it spoke strongly against the formation of Palestinian state as a serious danger to Israel's security.

"If the second part of the report was leaked, it would be all over for those who want to talk to the PLO," he said, adding the assessment had been presented orally and included input from 20 agencies including the Mos-



Shamir

### Israel to stop submarine order

TEL AVIV, March 21, (Reuters): Army Chief of Staff Dan Shomron wants to cancel an Israeli Navy order for two West German submarines that were to be among the Jewish state's main combat vessels for the 1990s, Israel Radio said today.

There was no immediate comment from the armed forces but defence sources said the proposed cut was apparently for budget reasons.

Outgoing Navy commander Rear Admiral Avraham Ben-Shoshan said last month that the combination of new submarines and missile boats was the absolute minimum the Navy needed for its mission against vastly larger Arab fleets.

The radio said Lieutenant General Shomron would seek support for the move from Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

sad secret service, military intelligence and Foreign Ministry intelligence.

Publication of the report stirred accusations from right-wing supporters of Shamir that it had been leaked by the rival Labour Party faction of the government.

The reports in at least three Israeli newspapers came as a rift is widening in Shamir's cabinet over the question of talking to the PLO and as the prime mini-

ster is trying to gain support for his policies at a conference of world Jewish leaders here.

"He published this in order to influence this conference, but the majority of Jews who are here support the government of Israel," which refuses to talk to the PLO, said Jacques Torczyner, a participant in the meeting from New York.

Israeli observers also said the leak may have been an effort by Labour doves to force the party to leave the coalition government.

Speaking before the conference yesterday, Shamir repeated his refusal to talk to the PLO. But at the same time, a Labour Party leader, Yossi Beilin, called on the government to consider talking to the PLO and suggested Labour should quit the coalition unless talks took place.

Shamir told today the meeting of 1,100 Jews from 30 countries that his government was trying to find other Arabs to join in peace talks.

"We have not slackened our search for more partners for peace, Arab partners whose willingness and yearning for peace with us is even remotely close to ours," he said.

He accused the PLO of "inciting violence and practicing terror" and said a PLO-sponsored Palestinian state would not advance peace.

"It would be the opposite of peace. It could only produce the peace of the cemetery," he said.

The new report by Israeli intelligence officials finds that the PLO has made a real change in its policy toward Israel, basing its recognition of Israel on the theory of Jewish and Palestinian states side by side, the Jerusalem Post reported today.

Outside the conference entrance, police arrested at least six peace activists who took part in a small protest urging the Jewish leaders to "speak your mind — not Shamir's."

Speakers at the conference on Jewish solidarity with Israel, called to strengthen Shamir's hand ahead of a visit to Washington next month, lashed out at media coverage of the Palestinian revolt in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

## Arafat warns Shamir blamed for escalating violence

BAGHDAD, March 21, (AP): PLO chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday blamed Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir for escalating violence in the occupied territories and warned that Israeli attacks in south Lebanon could develop into a full-scale offensive.

Arafat told a news conference the Israeli government has decided on harsher measures to halt the 15-month-old Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He said Shamir has initiated a two-pronged plan to quell the uprising by "escalating oppressive measures and intensifying the iron fist policies against our people, while ... offering some new ideas on a settlement to the conflict ... aimed at distracting world opinion from the uprising."

Seven Palestinians were killed in weekend clashes with Israeli soldiers.

The PLO leader said that the Israelis may also launch pre-emptive attacks against Palestinian positions in south Lebanon.

**Crisis**

"The (Israeli) are in deep crisis and they think that an aggression in south Lebanon will help them to get out of their bottleneck," he said.

Arafat said that Israeli attacks could develop into a large scale offensive by early summer in south Lebanon where "they can start any aggression against the Arab countries without waiting for any green light from their Western Allies."

Since 1985, Israel has maintained a self-proclaimed security zone in south Lebanon in order to prevent Palestinian guerrillas from staging cross-border attacks against northern Israel.

Arafat also denied reports that the United States has asked the PLO to halt military operations against Israel as a condition for continuing a dialogue opened last December.

"Nobody has the right to ask us to give promises or make pledges on how to defend our rights," he said.

The dialogue started formally on Dec. 16 when Washington lifted a 13-year ban on dealing with the PLO after Arafat renounced terrorism and recognised Israel's right to exist.

Arafat said the PLO has the right for "all kinds of struggle" against Israel, but indicated that recent attacks were staged by rival Palestinian factions to embarrass him and upset the United States-PLO dialogue.

He said that PLO officials holding talks next Wednesday in Tunis with US ambassador to Tunisia Robert Pelletreau would ask for active American involvement in efforts to convene an international Middle East peace conference.

"Our priority in the next round (of dialogue) will be escalating moves to convene the international conference," he said.

### Mafia boss vanishes

CATANIA, Sicily, March 21, (Reuters): A convicted mafia boss being treated for a lung complaint has vanished without trace from his hospital room, police said today.

They said they believed Giuseppe Ferrera, 46, had fled to avoid being killed in a war among rival mafia clans. He survived an armed assault while in hospital last year.

from disgruntled Army generals will be sworn in on Wednesday, state television reported.

It said on Monday that Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi will announce the new government, in which his Umma Party and the Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) would be the main partners, at a news conference and that the cabinet would be sworn in later on Wednesday.

## EEC decision backs Islam

### UK won't reopen mission

NICOSIA, March 21, (AP): Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said today the European Economic Community decision to allow member countries to send ambassadors back to Iran in the wake of the Salman Rushdie affair underscored the strength of Islam.

State-run Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, quoted the minister as saying that EEC countries withdrew ambassadors from Iran on Feb. 20 because of "lack of understanding of Islam, Muslims and the Islamic faith."

But, he added, Ayatollah Khomeini's "very important" edict, urging Muslims to kill the British writer, Rushdie, and "the strong backing" by Muslims made the EEC "return to realism."

"In the EEC, there is (now) a kind of ... realisation of the importance of Islam, Muslims and the sanctities of Islam," Velayati was quoted as saying.

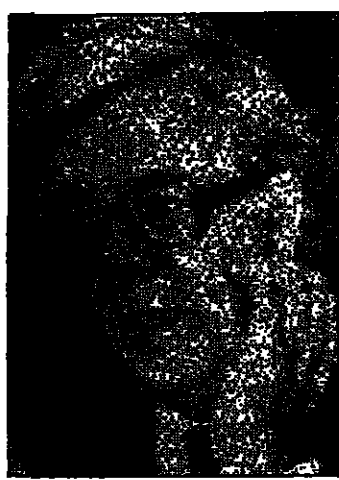
"We reiterate that the (Iranian) Foreign Ministry is not only the defender of the Islamic Republic of Iran, but also will defend the interests of Islam on the international scene," he said.

Britain closed its Tehran mission altogether after Khomeini's decree against Rushdie on Feb. 14. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government has admitted that Rushdie's book "The Satanic Verses" insults Islam, but stressed that it did not justify killing him.

British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said after the EEC decision in Brussels on Monday that his country will not reopen its mission in Tehran.

"There is no change in our own position," he said.

Howe will begin on March 27 a five-day Asian tour which will



Howe

take him to Pakistan, India, Bahrain and Qatar, it was officially announced today.

**Strike**

Meanwhile, Bangladesh ground to a halt today in a general strike in protest against the controversial novel The Satanic Verses by Salman Rushdie.

Streets emptied of traffic, most businesses shut, schools and colleges closed and examinations were postponed as the stoppage took hold.

Armed police patrolled Dhaka and other cities.

The strike was called by 14 Islamic parties, including the fundamentalist Jamaat-e-Islami, to protest against Rushdie's book, which Muslims consider blasphemous.

Hundreds of strikers marched through the deserted streets of Dhaka chanting "death of Rushdie" and burning dummies of the British author.

Most domestic airline flights were delayed, airport officials said, and most trains left Dhaka station several hours late.

## Saudis deny bribery charge

MANAMA, March 21, (UPI): Saudi Arabia today denied British press reports alleging that London offered hefty commissions to win a multi-billion dollar arms deal with the kingdom, the state-run Saudi Press Agency reported.

The agency quoted an unnamed Saudi official source as saying the allegation of bribery carried in the London weekly Observer on Sunday, was "truthless in whole and detail."

The Saudi source said the arms deal with Britain was concluded openly and officially between the government of Britain and Saudi Arabia, without any role played by intermediaries.

The source said Saudi Arabia would take unspecified necessary actions to put the record straight if the allegations were repeated.

"In case such falsifications are published again, the kingdom of Saudi Arabia will take regular measures" to put things back in their proper order," the agency quoted the source as saying.

The kingdom, "is fully aware of the intentions and motives of the writer and the circles that stand behind the campaign of slander and disinformation," the agency quoted the source as saying.

## Egypt to get a boost by King Fahd's visit

RIYADH, March 21, (AP): King Fahd, will fly to Cairo within the week on a visit that will give considerable boost to Egypt's gradual return to Arab fold.

Diplomatic sources said today Fahd will discuss with President Mubarak international and regional issues, with the Arab-Israeli conflict topping the agenda.

But Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Meguid said Fahd will visit Egypt before Ramadan, Islam's holiest month of fasting, which begins April 7. Mayo, the newspaper of Egypt's ruling National Democratic Party, also reported the visit will take place on March 25.

The diplomatic sources, who spoke on condition they not be named, said the visit would take place early "next week," referring to the Muslim week which begins on Saturday.

They noted that Fahd's trip comes just before Mubarak flies to Washington later in the spring for talks on the Middle East, suggesting the two leaders would coordinate how Mubarak would address the new administration of President George Bush.

Bush and Mubarak met briefly in Tokyo last month during Japanese Emperor Hirohito's

funeral.

Both Egypt and Saudi Arabia have close links with the United States. Cairo has used its links with Israel to promote ideas for a settlement of the 41-year-old Palestinian problem.

The diplomatic sources said the Fahd-Mubarak agenda also includes efforts to bring Iran and Iraq to agree to a durable settlement of their conflict after a UN-mediated ceasefire halted eight years of hostilities between them last Aug. 20.

It also includes the nearly 14-year-old civil war in Lebanon, where renewed fighting has plagued the country for two weeks, and the recent formation of the Arab Co-operation Council grouping Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen.

Saudi Arabia is playing a leading role in trying to heal inter-Arab rifts, including those between Egypt and Syria, Syria and Iraq, and Syria and the PLO.

Patching up these feuds is necessary before Saudi Arabia could host an Arab League summit meeting to forge unified political, economic and military strategies for member states.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said recently that the situation is "not yet congenial" for an Arab League summit.

### Muayad visit

MANAMA, March 21, (KUNA): Bahrain's Minister of Information Tarik Al Muayad left for Pakistan today in response to an invitation extended by Pakistani Minister of State for Information Jawid Jabbar. Talks between the two information officials are expected to focus on ways of enhancing media co-operation between the two countries.

### Omani children saved

NICOSIA, March 21, (Reuters): A Omani Air Force helicopter saved three children who were trapped on top of a sand dune surrounded with flood waters. Heavy rains poured on Oman during the past two days. The Oman news agency, said today the children were rescued at Ayun, 846 kms (529 miles) southwest of Muscat.

### Arab League meeting

TUNIS, March 21, (KUNA): The Arab League council will hold its 91st ordinary session here next Monday. The council to be chaired by Iraq, will discuss Arab and international affairs topped by the Palestinian issue, and the latest developments in Lebanon.

### Sedki off to Morocco

CAIRO, March 21, (AP): Prime Minister Atef Sedki and a high-level delegation left today for an official visit to Morocco during which several bilateral co-operation agreements will be signed, the Middle East News Agency reported. It quoted Sedki as saying he carried a written message from President Hosni Mubarak to Moroccan King Hassan concerning the situation in the Middle East and the Palestinian issue.

### Waldheim's tour

ABU DHABI, March 21, (KUNA): Austrian President Kurt Waldheim today continued his official visit to the United Arab Emirates and met with senior UAE officials in Al Ain, Dubai and Sharja. He stressed during his meeting with the accompanying Austrian press delegation the importance of co-operation between the countries of the region.

### Egypt-US accord

CAIRO, March 21, (KUNA): Egypt and United States signed an agreement here last night under which the United States will extend a \$70 million loan to finance Egyptian purchase of 275,000 tons of wheat and 33,000 tons of food oil. The loan is a part of food for peace programme of 1989, the total value of which is \$170 million dollars. The agreement was signed by Egyptian Minister for International Co-operation Maurice Makram and American charge d'affaires in Cairo.

### Egypt-Syria ties

CAIRO, March 21, (KUNA): Egypt and Syria have informed Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze that they completely welcome a Soviet mediation aimed at removing differences and achieving conciliation between Cairo and Damascus, press reports said today. Egyptian opposition newspaper Al Wafd, quoted a high-ranking diplomatic source as saying that the Soviet mediation between the two Arab countries has achieved substantive progress in the recent period, and what the outcome of those efforts would be announced shortly.

### Islamic institute

TOKYO, March 21, (KUNA): The Arab Islamic Institute in Tokyo is exerting efforts to spread Islamic culture in Japan. The institute director Dr Awad Al Samir told KUNA today the institute is an affiliate of Imam Mohamed Bin Saud Islamic University in Saudi Arabia and is holding morning and afternoon classes to teach Arabic language and Arab Islamic culture.

### Danish minister

KUWAIT, March 21, (KUNA): Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen arrived in Tel Aviv on an official two-day visit for talks with Israeli officials. Radio Israel said the Danish foreign minister will hold talks with Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens.

### Mine collapses

ANKARA, March 21, (Reuters): Two coal miners were killed and one was seriously injured in a cave-in at a mine near the Black Sea city of Zonguldak, the Anatolian news agency said today. The collapse occurred 400 metres (1,300 feet) below ground. At least six other miners have been killed in cave-ins and gas explosions in Turkey in the last year.

### Drug tests

WASHINGTON, March 21, (AP): The United States' highest court, in its first decision on testing for drug and alcohol abuse in the American work place, ruled today that some workers in sensitive government jobs and some entrusted with public safety may be forced to undergo such tests.



# Nawaf call to reactivate Joint Arab Defence Pact

Pan-Arab military force proposed

KUWAIT, March 21. (Agencies): Kuwait's Defence Minister has called for reactivating the Joint Arab Defence Pact and setting up a Pan-Arab military force, a local daily newspaper reported yesterday.

Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Sabah proposed the establishment of "An Arab Defence Council ... which would oversee formation of a deterrent Arab force to confront challenges facing the Arab nation at present and in future."

He added that the situation in the Gulf area is "not reassuring" and urged Arab countries to revive the much-spoken-of but comatose pact.

## Concern

Sheikh Nawaf, attributed his concern to the fact that the Iran-Iraq peace negotiations have been stumbling since they began last August, with the two Gulf belligerents failing to reach a peace agreement.

No combat pay for military personnel

## US moves AWACS out of Gulf

WASHINGTON, March 21. (AP): The United States has withdrawn a second AWACS radar-surveillance plane from Saudi Arabia thanks to the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, the US Defence Department said yesterday.

The withdrawal of the huge early-warning plane earlier this month leaves two other such aircraft still in Saudi Arabia. The Saudis have purchased five of the planes themselves, but the United States deployed additional AWACS during the height of fighting in the Arabian Gulf two years ago.

The US planes, in co-operation with the Saudi aircraft, flew continuous surveillance missions over the Gulf while US Navy ships were escorting oil tankers. The Iran-Iraq ceasefire began last August and while little progress has been made on a peace treaty, both sides continue to respect the truce. As a result, the United States also has begun withdrawing some of its naval force in the region.

"After consultation with Saudi Arabia, we have recently withdrawn one of our AWACS aircraft from Saudi Arabia," a Defence Department spokesman said.

"This action is consistent with earlier statements in which we have said we would maintain forces in the area consistent with the threat."

The Pentagon withdrew its first AWACS plane in January. Officials declined yesterday to estimate when the remaining two might be pulled out.

Meanwhile the payment of monthly combat pay to US sailors deployed in the Gulf region of the Middle East will come to an end on April 1, the Defence Department said yesterday.

Special education programmes

## Handicapped to be integrated in society

THE prospects and means for better integrating handicapped citizens into society were discussed recently at a symposium held by the organising committee for the Fourth National Handicapped Week.

Speaking at the symposium, Sulaiman Abdul Rahman Al Saleh, the controller for medical, psychological and social services at the Education Department of the Ministry of Education, gave a historical overview of the establishment of special schools which began in 1955. Such schools included institutions for the mentally retarded, for the deaf,

and for the physically disabled. Saleh said there have been special committees engaged in developing educational programmes at the schools since 1980, geared towards fulfilling local labour market requirements through increased employment of handicapped citizens.

Ahmed Al Findi of the Fatwa and Opinion Department at the Civil Service Commission, meanwhile, said that the government pays considerable attention to the training and rehabilitation of the handicapped, and that private schools and

centres are provided for this purpose.

He said the Civil Service Commission helps provide employment for handicapped persons who have been trained in these establishments.

Findi said that although Cabinet Decision No. 33/1975 stipulates that a secondary education certificate is required for public employment, the Commission managed to obtain an exception to the decision in regard to the handicapped on the grounds of their disability. This has facilitated providing them with employment, he said.

"This is not reassuring as it keeps alive fears and vigilance and hinders peace plans," he said.

Iran and Iraq must be more flexible toward peace, he said, adding that UN Security Council Resolution 598 on the Gulf war was the best solution for the conflict and can be conducive to better relations between the warring neighbours.

## Conflict

While calling for full abstinence by the Arab Joint Defence Charter, the minister pointed out that a conflict of view stands between the majority of Arabs and one or two Arab states should not block joint political and defence action. The majority can and should go ahead with an agreed action or decision, Sheikh Nawaf insisted.

The Kuwaiti minister said that his proposal was "being discussed with other Arab countries at meetings of chiefs of staff."

He added: "There is a real chance for establishing joint-Arab defence co-operation of the required level."

Sheikh Nawaf emphasised that Arabs must brush aside their disputes and co-operate to win the respect of the world and leverage at international forums. "I trust that neither Israel nor those behind it can hurt Arabs if the Arabs close their ranks and form a cohesive unit," he said.

## Aid

Kuwait, along with the rest of the 22-member Arab League, is bound by a joint defence pact stipulating that any Arab country under attack should be aided by the other Arab states.

Iraq frequently called for reactivating the pact during its eight-year war with Iran, which was halted by a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire last Aug 20.

Citing the pact, the Arab League in 1976 sanctioned an Arab deterrent force for Lebanon, mostly comprising Syrian troops. In the early 1960s it sanctioned a similar force for post-independence Kuwait in face of an Iraqi threat. That force was predominantly Egyptian.

## Gulf RDC

Kuwait, as a member of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council is linked with a Gulf rapid deployment force known as Peninsula Shield and based in the northern Gulf-side Hafr Al Baten region of Saudi Arabia.

The minister, meanwhile, urged the warring Lebanese factions to heed peace calls and co-operate with an Arab League committee trying to solve their country's crisis.

Sheikh Nawaf also hailed the creation of the Arab Co-operation Council and the Arab Maghreb Union and hoped the two bodies would add strength to the Arab League.

Traps should be laid

## Warning against rats

MOST rats originally came to Kuwait from abroad inside foodstuff containers, according to a senior Kuwaiti official.

In an interview with a local daily, Dr Mohammed Al Tantawi, chairman of Kuwait's rodent fighting unit, said that rats took refuge in food cartons of containers. These containers were then deposited at storage areas such as the vegetable market and co-operative societies. He called on citizens to unload food from cartons at a distance from their kitchens, and warned of the perils resulting from pollution caused by house rats.

## Plan

The rodents fighting unit annihilated about 300,000 domestic rats in addition to about 9,000 Norwegian rats last year, the official said, and called upon citizens to co-operate by putting out mouse traps whenever they suspected the presence of these rodents.

The unit will proceed with a comprehensive fighting plan to cover every house and installation in the country. Additional teams are to be distributed at storage areas in Al Shuwaikh, Al Rai and Al Ardhiyah, in addition to co-operative societies stores spread out in different areas of the country, Tantawi said.

## International day against discrimination

March 21 set by world community

KUWAIT, March 21. (KUNA): The world community has set March 21 every year as an international day for combating racial discrimination and apartheid policies practised in particular by the two oppressive regimes in occupied Palestine and South Africa.

A report by KUNA's information and research department to commemorate the day, highlighted the world community's efforts in fighting all forms of racial segregation to which the Zionist authorities in occupied Palestine and the racist regime of Pretoria are real faces.

Both regimes are considered as settler colonialists who based their policies on ethnic discrimination which were imposed on national citizens putting restrictions on their movement and accommodation with low level services.

The two authorities in occupied Palestine and South Africa have initiated close bilateral co-operation to carry out their racial practices which are based on brutality, oppression and injustice.

Sharing the same ideas and policies, the Zionist entity and apartheid South Africa have continuously developed their bilateral co-operation in military and intelligence spheres.

The UN Anti-Apartheid Committee has on many occasions warned against the growing co-operation between Israel and South Africa which it said has covered political, military, nuclear, economic and cultural fields.

Some reports indicated that the Zionist entity has brought into occupied Palestine "riot-fighting experts" from South Africa to help crush the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.



Amir receives Rakowski

HH the Amir yesterday received in audience Polish Premier Mieczyslaw Rakowski and the accompanying delegation on the occasion of his visit to the country.

The audience was attended by head of the honorary mission, accompanying the guest, Minister of Electricity and Water Dr Homoud Al Rqobah.

The Polish premier had his first round of official talks in a meeting with His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah

Al Sabah.

The talks centred on ways to strengthen ties between the two countries, especially in economic areas and matters of common interest, an official source said.

The Kuwaiti team in the session included Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, Trade and Industry Minister Faisal Abdul Razzaq Al Khaled and Electricity and Water Minister Hmoud Al Rqobah.

Attending on the Polish side were members of the delegation accompanying the prime minister

Bahrain conference ends

## Role of Arab women in development vital: Isa

By Yakub Razzaque Arab Times Staff

BAHRAIN, Amir Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa praised the role of Arab women as vital in the development of the region after receiving the heads of delegations to the Fifth Regional Arab Women's Conference.

Sheikh Isa said the responsibilities of the Arab woman as a mother and guide are essential to prepare future generations to meet their countries' norms and traditions.

## Progress

He called for the application of the recommendations of the conference to accomplish social objectives in the region.

Sheikha Lulwa, chairwoman of the conference, said women in the Gulf and other Arab coun-

tries have made considerable progress in their role to develop their respective countries.

Lulwa Al Qatami, secretary-general of the co-ordination committee for women in the Gulf and the Arabian peninsula and head of the Kuwaiti delegation, praised the support and facilities provided by Bahrain during the conference and for making it a success.

Meanwhile, a number of papers were presented in the course of the conference which ended yesterday.

## Study

Dr Nahid Asirani, lecturer of the psychiatric department at Bahrain University, presented a study which states that generally female Bahraini college students seek the right to work and occupy high positions in their jobs.

Dr Asirani added, however, that in spite of this positive way of thinking 50 per cent of these women still feel inferior to men.

Speaking on the role of education in determining the position of women in Arab societies, the psychiatrist stated that many Bahraini college educated girls are affected with an amalgam of both traditional and modern ideas.

The effect of drugs on young people was discussed by Bahraini consultant psychiatrist Dr Ali Mattar, while Salda Al Khater covered problems faced by youngsters in education as a result of taking drugs.

The four-day conference was exceptionally well attended and proved to be a resounding success, according to the chairman of the organising committee, Jamil Al Jishi.

UNESCO education symposium

## Experts to meet in Bahrain

KUWAIT, March 21. (KUNA): Educational experts from 11 Arab states assembled in Manama next Monday for a symposium co-sponsored by the regional unit of UNESCO and the Bahraini National Committee for UNESCO, a press release here said today.

The countries are Jordan, Kuwait, the UAE, Tunisia, Syria, Iraq, Qatar, Libya, Egypt, Morocco and the host state Bahrain. Kuwait's delegation groups six experts.

The experts will discuss the co-ordination of an educational programme for development in Arab countries.

The symposium aims at acquainting Arab states on Bahrain's experience in upgrading methods toward preparing an elementary school teacher.

In this regard, the gathering will discuss a work document submitted by the Bahraini Education Ministry, which focuses on elementary education, its goals, curricula and school buildings.

In addition to reports by the participating countries on their experiences, a document under the theme of "Modern trends in preparing a class teacher in Arab countries" will also be examined.

The document explains the applied methods in preparing teachers in Arab states compared to those in other world countries, in addition to obstacles facing institutions for qualifying elementary school teachers.



Jordanian festival at the Sheraton

KUWAIT Sheraton Hotel takes pleasure in introducing the Royal Jordanian folklore troupe made up of young Jordanians from all walks of life, employed in various types of work or pursuing their studies and have in common a love for their country's folklore tradition and a dedication to its preservation.

The troupe performs traditional dances, songs and instrumental music of Jordan's provinces, from the towns, villages and rural areas to the bedouin encampments and Red Sea coast of Aqaba, in colourful costumes based on traditional regional dress.

All dances, reflecting themes common throughout the Arab world as well as the influence of the many ethnic groups contributing to Jordan's rich history, are carefully adapted by the troupe's choreographer Mano Selaman with the intention of bringing to the international stage, authentic expressions of Jordanian cultural and social life.

Live musical accompaniment is provided by troupe musicians playing traditional Arabic instruments.

The troupe performs at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on March 28, 29 and 31, 1989.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Amiri audiences

KUWAIT, March 21. (KUNA): His Highness the Amir today received in audience HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

HH also received board chairman of the Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) Ahmed Al Meshari, who presented to HH a memorial plaque on the occasion of KAC's 35th anniversary.

Minister of Communications, board chairman of the Science Club Abdullah Abdul Mohsen Al Sharhan was also received by HH. Sharhan presented to the Amir department directors of the club, and a number of members of the club's branches including students and officials on the joint scientific activities committee.

### Education conference

THE second educational conference for general education, due to be held next month, will be entitled "Education is a Joint Responsibility."

Speaking at a press conference, Ministry of Education undersecretary Abdurrahman Al Khodari said that the conference is designed to spread awareness of the educational process in addition to highlighting some educational issues that require collective effort.

The conference will also discuss problems faced by students, search for solutions, and define the direct and indirect roles of government and private educational institutions in the education process, including the role of social services in educational institutions.

### Bahraini employees

BAHRAIN, insurance and financial company employees are the highest paid in the private sector in Bahrain, according to a report published by the Bahraini Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

Average monthly payments of these employees amounted to BD776 (KD597.520).

A total of 4,366 employees — constituting five per cent of total employees in the financial and insurance sectors are paid these wages.

Workers in the construction sector are the lowest paid in Bahrain's private sector. A total of 30,029 workers in the construction sector in Bahrain draw an average of BD133 a month.

More than half of the manpower in Bahrain gets an average of between BD133 and BD153 per month, the report concluded.

### Lack of co-operation

A REPORT issued by the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultations has criticised the absence of co-operation and co-ordination among Gulf factories, universities and research centres.

The report indicated that most Gulf factories, especially those of small and medium scale, undertake practically no research. At the same time, research centres and universities do not give importance to undertaking industrial research.

On the other hand the report cited the example of Tunisia, praising the integration between scientific research and application in the economic and industrial institutions there through the establishment of a joint institute between universities and owners of factories to develop the industrial base in that country. The report called on the GCC states to emulate this example.

### Traffic accidents

FOUR persons were injured in 17 traffic accidents in different parts of Kuwait during the last 24 hours. Five accidents occurred in the Capital, five in Hawalli, six in Ahmadi and one in Jahra, police reported.

Meanwhile, the CID of Ahmadi Governorate arrested a Kuwaiti national for allegedly breaking the windows of several cars and stealing their contents in the Fintas area. Several stolen items were recovered from the accused.

Investigations are in progress to determine if there is any linkage of the accused with the spate of similar incidents in the recent past, officials sources said.

### Indian envoy

A PRESS release from the Indian embassy said that Nagendra Nath Jha, ambassador of India, met yesterday with Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Sabah, minister of social affairs and labour. They discussed means to further strengthen co-operation between the two countries in addition to other matters of mutual interest.

### Bangladesh envoy

THE Ambassador of Bangladesh K.M. Shehabuddin yesterday met Kuwait's Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Sabah. They discussed labour affairs and matters of mutual interest.

## GCC rice scheme a success

THE collective purchase scheme for rice which has been implemented by the GCC states, has achieved positive results by providing a stronger negotiation base resulting in savings of up to \$35 million, according to Abdul Bari Abdul Ghaffar, the general director of the Bahraini-based import and export organisation.

In a statement to the Bahraini daily "Al Ayam", the official said that Bahrain imported 16,750 tons of Basmati rice from Pakistan and 15 tons of sugar from Western Europe last year.

Optimum benefits He added that as rice is one of the most important consumer products in the Gulf region, a permanent committee for the collective purchase of rice was formed to obtain optimum benefits. The efforts of this committee enabled each state to save from \$10 to \$20 per ton.

The official was optimistic about expanding the collective purchase scheme to include other essential commodities. The company has recently signed with a European company for the import of 10,000 tons of sugar from the European Economic Community (EEC). The total value of the deal is \$3.25 million. The consignment will be delivered in four batches, and is expected to arrive in Bahrain before the holy month of Ramadhan, Ghaffar said.

## Abortionist arrested

SECURITY men of the Firdous and Jahra areas in a co-operative move arrested an Indian woman charged with performing abortions for fees ranging up to KD1000.

The woman, identified as Randia, 27, is alleged to have performed several such illegal operations and in one instance the client almost died at the hands of the suspect.

The suspect has been remanded to investigative custody.

## Chile products

ALL agro-products imported from Chile have undergone intensive laboratory testing and been declared fit for consumption and free from any poisonous substances.

This clarification comes following reports of possible cyanide poisoning in produce imported from Chile and the seizure by Kuwait Municipality of all Chilean products.



## ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

A MAN'S true wealth is the good he does in this world  
— Holy Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), (570-632).

## Editor survives

## A difficult ride

By Mark O'Neill

BEIJING, (Reuters): The editor of China's boldest newspaper uses a ping-pong table to describe his work.

"We are on the white line on the edge of the table," he says. "The ball is in, but only just. It is nearly over the line."

Qin Benli, 71, has been editor of the Shanghai World Economic Herald since it was founded in 1980, the only major newspaper in China not under direct government control.

It has not been an easy ride for a paper that has constantly printed stories and opinions other periodicals would not touch.

Earlier this year, he had a visit from a Communist Party propaganda department official to tell him of the department's anger over his publication of a speech given in December by a top Marxist academic.

The speech, published only by the Herald, attacked the party for suppressing free academic debate and expelling prominent intellectuals.

## Politte

"The official was polite. It was not like the haranguing of the old days," Qin said in an interview in the cramped courtyard that houses his Beijing office. "If it happened again, I would publish it without hesitation."

The newspaper was not allowed to send reporters to cover the National Peoples Congress, China's parliament, which opened on March 20, although almost all major newspapers were there.

A Congress spokesman gave no reason. Chinese sources said the Herald applied for accreditation a month ago but had been told it would not be granted because authorities wanted to reduce the number of newspapers attending.

The severest tests for the Herald were during the 1980s ideological campaigns by hardline Marxists against "spiritual pollution" and "bourgeois liberalism."

Some newspapers and periodicals were closed or had their editors and staff changed. Officials publicly attacked the Herald but it survived unscathed.

"Perhaps it was because we were influential, with most of the leadership among our readers," Qin said. "Also we have influence abroad and our basic policy was always been to support reform and the open-door policy."

Diplomats say the Herald was also protected by its directors, who include well-known economists and public figures, and by the connections Qin built in 50 years as a journalist.

It was set up by the world economic institute of the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences and, along among major newspapers, does not come under a ministry or municipality.

"We started it because China desperately needed to understand the rest of the world," Qin said. In the 1960s and 1970s Chinese were not allowed to read either Western or Soviet newspapers.

"We were told the West was equal to capitalism and capitalism was equal to evil," he said.

The Herald runs articles on world affairs, including political reforms in other communist countries, and detailed analyses of foreign policy unmatched in other Chinese publications.

It has published signed attacks on Mao Tse-tung and articles by dissident scientist Fang Lizhi, whose words other periodicals dare not print.

Based in Shanghai, it has a circulation of 300,000 influential readers, mostly intellectuals and high officials.

For Qin, the last nine years have been the most peaceful and satisfying of a turbulent life. The son of a businessman from Zhejiang province, Qin studied law at University in Chongqing, the temporary home of the nationalist government during Japan's occupation of much of eastern China from 1937 to 1945.

After the war, he joined the Wen Hui Bao newspaper in Shanghai, which campaigned against hunger and the civil war between the communists and nationalists, who closed it down in 1947.

After the communist victory in 1949, he worked for five years with the People's Daily in Beijing before briefly rejoining Wen Hui Bao when it was reopened in 1956.

Mao Tse-tung launched a campaign against "rightists" in 1957, attacking the Wen Hui Bao by name. Qin lost his job. After six months without work, he became a sub-editor on an extreme left magazine.

## Pig pen

When Mao launched the radical leftist Cultural Revolution in 1966 Qin was, like many from China's intelligentsia and its political leadership, sent to a farm for seven years.

"I and my wife raised pigs. We had no wages, just 30 yuan (\$8) a month living expenses," he said.

After Mao's death and the end of the Cultural Revolution in 1976, Qin returned to Shanghai and work in journalism.

Like most of China's intellectuals, he lost 20 of the best years of his working life to radical political campaigns.

It is from that perspective that he is optimistic about China's future, despite record inflation, the worst corruption in 40 years and widespread disregard of Beijing's orders.

## FSX: second thoughts

NEW YORK: The New York Times said in an editorial: Congress and the administration are having second thoughts about the Japan fighter deal negotiated by the Pentagon. It is by no means clear that the Pentagon took America's commercial interests fully into account or, as it contends, that it got the best deal available.

The deal on the table is that Mitsubishi Heavy Industries will develop the FSX, an essentially new plane loosely modelled on the F-16, the front-line US fighter. Mitsubishi would gain access to the F-16s technology. In return General Dynamics would get part of the development work and a vague promise of 40 per cent of the production.

Robert Mosbacher, the new commerce secretary, has rightly complained of his department's exclusion from the negotiations. His concerns have been backed by President Bush's Chief of Staff, John Sununu, who is sceptical of the Pentagon's technical arguments. Bush's best choices are to cancel the deal outright or at least to insist that its vague language be tightened to safeguard US interests.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

1312 — The Pope abolishes the Order of the Templars.

1622 — About 35 Virginians are killed in first Indian massacre of European colonists in North America.

1765 — England's Parliament passes Stamp Act to raise revenue in American colonies.

1794 — US Congress passes law prohibiting American ships from supplying slaves to other countries.

1917 — United States becomes first nation to recognise new provisional government in Russia.

1945 — Arab League is founded in Cairo, Egypt.

1946 — Britain recognises independence of Transjordan.

1962 — Right-wing French terrorists attack government forces in Algiers.

1963 — United States attempts to mediate political dispute that threatens civil war in South Vietnam.

1964 — Anti-Muslim violence breaks out in India.

1972 — More than 70 people in Belfast, Northern Ireland, are injured when bomb explodes in parking lot between city's largest hotel and a railway station.

1986 — South Africa's Supreme Court issues government stinging rebuff by invalidating severe restrictions imposed on black activists.

1987 — Chadian soldiers seize major Libyan ground and air base at Ouadi Doum in northern Chad after heavy fighting.

1988 — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze retreats from pledge to withdraw Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

## Ghost of Oliver Twist haunts London

LONDON, (Reuters): From a Victorian hostel in the back streets of East London, John set off on a begging "shift" in underground stations.

"All you need in this life is a sleeping-bag, a change of clothes and money," said the lanky 22-year-old, one of tens of thousands of young people who sleep on the streets of London and in emergency shelters.

Living by begging and charity, they seek to acquire nothing but occasional clean clothes and money for a drink. Most of them have dazed, shell-shocked eyes, perhaps from alcohol or drugs, perhaps from depression.

They beg in shifts on beats which gradually become accepted among them by general consent.

"Sometimes people mouth you off (insult). After you've done your shift, you go to the toilet and cry," John said.

Nobody insulted him in Waterloo underground station, but in 30 minutes he made just £1 (\$1.70).

and was moved on by police. At the next station he made 12 pence (20 cents).

Some youngsters tell of lucrative earnings from begging, and one said he could earn £150 (\$264) a day — which compares favourably to the average London weekly wage of around £270 (\$475).

But social workers say this is mainly bravado speaking.

"There are a small number of kids who make quite a lot of money out of begging, but they are a small minority," said Nick Hardwick, director of a hostel near Trafalgar Square. He said organised begging rackets existed in London.

One young Scot told how he had run such a gang. "At one time I had a team of seven lads working under me. I'd take 60 per cent of what we made and they'd take 40 per cent between them. The guy that taught me did the same thing."

"It's like Oliver Twist," said Hardwick, referring to Charles Dickens' 19th-century fictional character.

Hardwick said one in five young people staying at his hostel were approached about prostitution.

"Sixteen and 17-year-olds won't always do the most sensible thing when it's two in the morning and some man offers them a bed for the night," he said.

Ken Fortune gives shelter and advice for young "rent boys" (male prostitutes). They are mostly homeless, and at great risk from AIDS, he says, for clients often don't like using condoms.

"You have unsafe sex becoming a saleable commodity, with 16 and 17-year-olds offered more money for unsafe sex," he said.

The growing numbers of young homeless in London worry social workers and police, who see many being pushed by high housing costs and poverty into begging and vice.

"Most of the begging goes on in the subways, and it's quite noticeable that there's more of it," said a police spokesman.

## Decade of peace

## Egypt-Israel: cool relations

By Nejla Sammakia

CAIRO, (AP): Egypt and Israel have been on speaking terms for a decade, but it's the relationship of neighbours who keep a wary eye on each other.

On maps, Egypt is whole again. Under terms of the peace treaty signed March 27, 1979, the Israelis returned most of the Sinai in 1982, 15 years after it was captured. They finished the turnover last Wednesday by pulling out of Taba, a tiny beach enclave on the Gulf of Aqaba.

Oil wells of Sinai and the Gulf of Suez, developed under Israeli occupation, pump money into Egypt, some of it from Israeli coffers. The United States, which under President Jimmy Carter sponsored the first peace between Arabs and Jews, is pouring more than \$2 billion annually into Egypt's economy. Even the Arab diplomatic boycott that the treaty sparked has ended except for Libya, Syria and Lebanon.

For the average Egyptian, however, there's little to show for Cairo's cool friendship with Israel except foodstands displaying juicier grapes, redder strawberries and fatter cucumbers.

But there's no talk, at least from those who rule, of going back. "Peace and peace. It is so important to the Israelis and Arabs," President Hosni Mubarak said after the Egyptian flag rose over Taba for the first time in 22 years. "It is worth whatever concession."

He called for mutual flexibility to solve the remaining problem, which is the same irritant that led to four Arab-Israeli wars: the Palestinians.

Butros Ghali, Mubarak's minister of state for foreign affairs, said Taba could be the key.

"Solving the Taba problem peacefully... opens the door to joint action between Egypt and Israel to solve the Palestinian problem," he said.

Egyptian officials want Israel to change its policy, deal with the PLO and give back occupied Arab territories.

Where Israel is concerned, there's a general feeling of mistrust among Egyptians, bred on the four wars and many years of regarding Israel as the eternal enemy. In an era of the superpower cold war a few years ago, Ghali characterised Egypt's relations with Israel as "cold peace".

Plenty of Israeli tourists visit Egypt, but few Egyptians go the other way mainly because the government discourages travel to Israel.

Egyptians generally sympathise with the Palestinians, particularly since the anti-Israeli uprising began more than 15 months ago in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israel often asks Egypt to implement fully the treaty's provisions designed to promote normalcy through such fields as trade, tourism and cultural exchanges. But experts on both sides say agricultural technology is about the only field in which co-operation flourishes.

The pact has survived Sadat's assassination, the killing of seven Israeli tourists and an embassy employee in 1985, and cross-border raids by Palestinians, including one in which three Israelis were killed last year.

Egypt showed no signs of wavering in upholding Sadat's pledge that there would be "no more wars" despite Israel's 1981 annexation of the Golan Heights captured from Syria, the 1982-85 invasion of Lebanon and the ongoing Palestinian uprising that began in December 1987.

"Will the treaty last another 10 years? I tell you I don't know, I can't be sure," said Eliahu Ben Elissar, who was Israel's first ambassador to Cairo and is now a parliament member representing the right-wing Likud Bloc.

"But I can assure you that today in Egypt I see no sign of any will to go back to the past situation of war. That's something. In fact, it's immense."

Ezer Weizman, then defence minister for Likud and now science minister for the left-leaning Labour Party, said the biggest disappointment was Israel's failure to follow up, as promised, in finding a solution for the Palestinians.

"I was hoping for a much better situation, especially regarding the Palestinian problem," said Weizman, who quit the cabinet in protest of the lack of progress in 1980 toward granting Palestinians autonomy.

Peace with Egypt changed Weizman's world view completely. The former pilot and Air Force commander became one of Israel's leading doves and now advocates talks with PLO chairman Yasser Arafat.

"It's a pity we lost 10 years, but it is better late than never," said Weizman, who told a small group of reporters recently that he blamed the lack of " gutsy leadership" in Israel for the stalled peace efforts.

From Israel's point of view, the greatest benefit of the treaty was reducing the likelihood of an Arab coalition forming as it did in 1973 to launch a war against Israel.

"There is no war with Egypt, and there's not going to be a war, and the peace from this point of view is a real peace," said Avraham Tamir, a retired Army general who negotiated the military aspects of Israel's withdrawal from Sinai.

The peace with Egypt was an historical achievement because without this peace, we would have passed at least one more war, and there are no winners in these wars," Tamir said in an interview.

"The advantage of (working with) Israel is that our climatic conditions are similar," said Hany Abdel-Nour, a businessman whose company sells irrigation techniques using innovative Israeli expertise.

He said most of his clients are former expatriate workers who have returned from Arab oil states with money to invest.

"They are broad-minded and ready to accept new techniques," Abdel-Nour said. "Some people had reservations at the beginning. But after a while their misgivings vanished."

One businessman who has no qualms about using Israeli technology is a former ranking Army officer who fought in the 1967 Middle East war, was captured and held for eight months as an Israeli prisoner-of-war.

The officer — he didn't want his name or rank used — grows grapes with Israeli know-how and equipment.

"This has no relation to war," the officer said. "My brother was killed in the war, so my hard feelings should be double. But I still take technology from them."

His family takes a less pragmatic approach. He said his wife "totally refuses" to socialise with her husband's Israeli colleagues.

Four years after the then President Anwar Sadat went to occupied Jerusalem, and two after he signed the peace treaty, Muslim extremists assassinated him in 1981 partly because of his closeness to the enemy.

Sadat's campaign to win over Egyptians to the idea of peace with Israel included repeated promises of prosperity for a people shackled for years with spending huge amounts on war.

But rising inflation, aggravated by lower oil prices, mismanagement and corruption, has disappointed many Egyptians and dashed much of Sadat's dream, even though it can't be blamed on the treaty.

"I was against the whole peace move," said a young agriculture graduate who identified himself only as Ahmed. "I wasn't fooled that the treaty would bring prosperity. You can see there is no prosperity — quite the contrary."

Israel's dream of smooth relations will be put to the test in Taba. For the first time, Egyptian and Israeli employees will be working together in large numbers at a resort hotel that Egypt bought from its Israeli owner, Eli Paposhado, for \$37 million.

"I don't know how it'll be, working with Egypt," cook Alice Zerber said on the day of the Egyptian takeover. "I don't know whether I'll accept taking orders from them."



A young Afghan boy in Kabul takes home a stack of traditional bread, nan, after waiting for hours in a queue.

## Kabul is still calm

## Fall not imminent

By Hugh Pain

KABUL, (Reuters): Nobody is manning the barricades just yet in Kabul, and inside the city it does not feel as if it is about to fall to the mujahedeen guerrillas.

Yet US Charge d'Affaires Jon Glassman, speaking early last month after joining a Western diplomatic exodus from the Afghan capital, said: "The Afghan government is like a building without girders." He predicted it would collapse by July.

And the mujahedeen alliance in Peshawar was even more optimistic, telling the world in mid-March that the government it formed in February would be ruling in the Afghan capital in six weeks — around the beginning of May.

They may be right, but neither the government of President Najibullah nor the city's two million people seem to believe it.

Women shovel the hard packed snow of winter off the pavements as roads turn into rivers of brown mud.

It is still cold, with a biting damp in the air and only the first hints of spring after the worst winter for 15 years.

But Kabul Mayor Mohammad Hakim told a news conference last week: "Despite the severe winter, there was not a single report of anybody dying of starvation or cold."

Vendors ply the streets with carts of carrots and pomegranates, onions and cauliflowers and oranges — for those who can afford them.

Only the bread queues — or rather bread huddles, as Afghans have never learnt the Western art of queuing — suggest a food shortage. Only the sparse traffic, consisting mainly of old buses belching low-octane fumes, tells that fuel is in short supply.

A 220-gram (eight oz) piece of bread costs six afghanis (three cents) at the government controlled price — worth waiting for in one of the world's poorest countries when the free market rate is 20 afghanis (10 cents).

Petrol costs 300 afghanis (\$1.50) a litre, but even that is better than last week's 400 afghanis (\$2) and shows that supplies are getting through both by road and in the huge Soviet transports that daily fly in from Tashkent. The flights carry flour according to officials and rockets according to local gossip.

The big Ilyushin-76s spew out flares to distract anti-aircraft missiles, and Soviet-supplied "Scud"

rockets take off with a roar to hit the rebels around Jalalabad in the east.

A few rebel rockets fall in return on the city on most days, killing and maiming a steady trickle of civilians, and the sound of artillery echoes across the ring of hills around Kabul.

But there is no panic or expectation that the capital is about to become a battlefield.

After a decade of war the politics of ordinary people — shopkeepers, taxi-drivers, bank clerks and the like — are simple and nearly universal.

They are glad the Russians have gone, they do not love the ruling People's Democratic Party, they fear the prospect of a hardline Islamic government like that of Iran if the mujahedeen win, and they wish the Americans and Pakistanis would stop supplying arms that kill more Afghans.

"The government is not going to collapse, the Army will not defect and the only way to capture Kabul will be by guns and tanks," said a government official.

Three defensive cordons ring the city to ward off that possibility, and more than 30,000 party members and government officials are trained to help the regular forces if the need arises.

But nobody has yet begun to man the barricades. "Every day 3,000 people come and leave, big convoys enter the city. You cannot call Kabul a city under siege," said Mayor Hakim.

The capital is watching the fighting in Jalalabad, 140 km (85 miles) to the east, with interest but so far little apprehension.

Few people expect their placid way of life to change in the near future. The men still watch the open-air dog fights on Fridays, the money changers still haunt the bazaars, the wedding season has begun.

"We may have some more rocket attacks, but in six months you will see nothing has changed," said an official, voicing a widespread confidence. "It is calm here, as you see, and it is not the calm before the storm."

An Arab diplomat, versed in the ways of Kabul, chuckled over Glassman's prediction of the government's imminent collapse, and saw his analogy as a Western misconception.

"The Afghans do not use girders in their buildings," he said. "They use mud and poles. Their houses look fragile and rickety, but they resist."

## Iranians diversity weapons sources

By Eric Hall

DUBAI, (Reuters): Iran has agreed to large weapons purchases and military contracts from East Bloc countries in rejection of Western political and economic pressures.

Iranian sources confirmed the latest deals with Romania and Czechoslovakia for tanks, missiles, and a possible new naval base at Qeshm island in the Strait of Hormuz, which controls access to the Gulf and passage for a third of the West's oil supplies.

"If the West wants to squeeze us, then that is one way to show them that our hands are not tied," said one of the sources close to the government in Tehran.

The Iranian Parliament on Monday passed a budget of 9,783 billion rials (\$140 billion) for the year starting March 21 but no figures on defence spending were released.

But the official IRNA news agency quoted Resalat newspaper as reporting during the 12-day debate that money set aside to "strengthen the defence structure" had been almost halved to 140 billion rials (\$5.85 billion) from 700 billion (\$10 billion) last year.

The budget was the first since ceasefire in the eight-year Iran-Iraq war came into effect last August.

The sources said Czechoslovakia would supply about 180 Soviet T-54/55 tanks which makes under licence and build a factory in Isfahan to produce anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles.

Romania is helping modernise a tractor factory in Arak, southwest of Tehran, to produce armoured vehicles, they said, adding that the naval base is still under discussion.

Western outrage over Iran's execution order on British author Salman Rushdie for blasphemy against Islam is only the latest block on a resumption of big Western arms sales there.

Iran built up an ever-increasing link with communist suppliers since its revolutionary Islamic government toppled the shah 10 years ago.

## Reliance

A US and British embargo on military supplies left the country with a strong Army packed with modern Western hardware but no hope of future maintenance and spares.

As the Western arms were eaten up in the grinding machine of Iran's war with Iraq, Iran turned to alternative suppliers and self-reliance.

Published reports in Western specialist magazines have said Iran received hundreds of millions of dollars of armaments from countries as widespread as Portugal, Spain, Argentina, Ethiopia, Libya, Sweden, and some US companies which broke the embargo.

But China and North Korea have stood out from the rest. In the first half of 1987 alone, Western military specialists estimate China sold Iran \$400 million of arms and North Korea sold it \$250 million worth.

Economists estimate Iran's total foreign debt at anything from \$4 to \$6 billion, which is an internationally-low two-to-three per cent of its gross national product.

"However, we suspect that the above figure does not include the military debt," said one research economist at a Gulf Arab bank.

British-based Iranian military expert Anoushiravan Eftekhari, from Exeter University, listed Iranian weapons systems which were not even at the planning stage 10 years ago but have been developed with Chinese and North Korean help.

These include Soviet-designed Scud-B missiles, Chinese Silkworm missiles, and possibly an agreement on a licence for Iran to assemble the F-6 fighter, which is a MiG-19 version.



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Privatisation vital for long-term development strategy

**SPEAKERS** at a seminar held yesterday by the Kuwaiti Economists Society called for the privatisation of public establishments as a necessity for long-term development strategy and to achieve optimal utilisation of the country's resources.

However, Jassem Al Saadoun, the well-known Kuwaiti economist and chairman of AlShall consulting office, warned of the adverse consequences of total privatisation and called for "a balanced form of privatisation to fall within a developmental context."

### Confidence

Addressing the seminar, Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al Ahmad said that the Kuwaiti private sector has restored its financial health after its long illness during the economic recession in Kuwait and the rest of the world.

He added that the Kuwaiti economy has also restored confidence in itself and is "now eager to perform and thus should be

encouraged." The local private sector must be given the opportunity to carry out some of the activities and services currently carried out by the government. Electricity and water production were two items cited by Sheikh Ahmad.

Elucidating, he said that the principle of converting the activities of the public sector to the private sector is in itself a political and social one based upon the economic philosophy of the state.

### Experience

But he pointed out that the privatisation is not as easy here as it is in some European countries, as the situation in Kuwait is totally different. Public establishments are slow and bureaucratic — two characteristics common to government establishments — he said, adding that this issue should be seriously discussed at all levels.

He went on to state that the private sector's good marketing experience, inter-

national relations, new administrative methods and economics could contribute positively to enhancing public services.

Of vital importance, the official said, is that the private sector could particularly contribute to "solving the problem of masked unemployment by using a selective recruitment policy of expatriate manpower which will subsequently achieve one of the major goals of the state's five-year development plan aimed at achieving a demographic balance between Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis."

He stressed that studies should be undertaken to ensure that any transfer does not adversely affect the public. The Kuwaiti demographic structure must be taken into account.

Sheikh Nasser said that if such a step is implemented, it will mobilise the local and Gulf financial markets and will redistribute the national income, in addition to the revenues that will accrue to the state

treasury.

Saadoun informed the audience that while the private sector and public sector experiments were successful in many other countries, both experiments failed in the Arab world because they were political and not developmental options or solutions.

He stressed that the transfer of the public sector will not be a solution to the problem of the Arab development plan. He called for revising and studying the experiments of other countries prior to taking any firm decisions.

Also speaking at the seminar, Abdul Jalil Al Gharaballi of the Central Bank of Kuwait emphasised that the transfer of public services to the private sector will open the way for improving productivity. He added that this will subsequently result in reducing the state's public expenditure and lead to a sharp reduction in the budget deficit.



A Japanese money broker signals a dollar trading indication during cautious activity at the Tokyo Foreign Exchange on Monday after strong gains overseas. The US currency closed at 131.92 yen after hitting an earlier high of 132.06 (Reuters wirephoto).

## Doubts expressed over future of Brady plan

**AMSTERDAM, March 21.** (Reuters) Initial optimism over a new US debt initiative aimed at easing the 6-12-year-old crisis began to give way today to questions on how effectively the plan could be implemented.

Doubts about the plan were expressed by debtor countries and some creditors at the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) annual meeting in Amsterdam, the first such gathering since the proposals were unveiled on March 10.

Officials were working today to complete a \$26.43-billion capital increase for the IADB. Its President, Enrique Iglesias, says the top-up should allow it to play an important role in the debt strategy.

### Debtors

Speaking at a news conference, US Treasury under-secretary designate David Mulford said he hoped a consensus could be reached among debtors and creditors at a meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) early next month.

The initiative, launched by US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, calls for mechanisms to reduce Third World debt and ease debt service. Latin America, with foreign debts of \$401 billion accounts for about a third of the total.

Japan endorsed the proposals but European officials were lukewarm to the concept of debt reduction and the idea of transferring debt risk from commercial banks to governments.

"What role the public sector should have, if any, in making such debt reduction easier will be a major topic for discussion at the IMF spring meeting," British delegation leader Ian Buist told the meeting.

(See IMF may alter role — Page 10)

### Energy File

## No plan to relinquish control over oil: Mexico

**MEXICO CITY, March 21.** (Reuters) Mexico has no intention of relinquishing state control over the country's oil industry, which in 1988 provided almost half the government's total income, President Carlos Salinas de Gortari said yesterday.

The government "will maintain not only the property but also the control of this strategic industry," Salinas said in a ceremony marking the 51st anniversary of the expropriation of the Mexican oil industry.

Salinas's remarks were an apparent bid to refute reports that his government was planning to privatise parts of state oil firm Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex) following the dramatic arrest of the leaders of the country's powerful oil workers union in January.

"Petroleos Mexicanos is the nation's and will continue to be in order that it always serve the people of Mexico," Salinas said. Mexico, the world's fourth largest oil exporter, continues to rely heavily on petroleum to finance government operations, despite recent efforts to diversify the country's economy in the wake of falling international oil prices.

### Oil prices slip

**LONDON, March 21.** (Reuters) Oil prices slipped yesterday after North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded crude, touched a 15-month high of \$18.00 a barrel, traders said. Prices firmed around \$1.45 per barrel last week amid signs of increasing world demand for "sweet", or petrol-rich, crude and continued production cuts.

### Energy efficiency

**HARARE, March 21.** (OPECNA) A selective exercise is under way in the Southern African sub-region to assess if energy is being used in small industries efficiently and economically.

Sponsored by the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) and funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the energy conservation pilot project has already carried out "energy audits" of small-scale industries in four of the nine SADCC countries, namely Botswana, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

### Tropical oils

**KUALA LUMPUR, March 21.** (UPI) Officials said yesterday they will begin a campaign to extol the health benefits of palm oil to China, to offset the oil's negative image in the United States, where they hope to also reverse that image.

Augustine Ong, director-general of the Palm Oil Research Institute of Malaysia, said the two-week trip to Beijing, Fuchow and Guangdong in May is aimed at disseminating the latest scientific findings on the nutritional aspects of palm oil.

## Expats will be able to invest

(Continued from Page 1)

into different categories, with about 40 per cent of the fund going towards real estate investments with a fixed rate of return. About 25 per cent of the raised capital will be used for speculation on the real estate market, while the rest will be invested abroad.

Al Hamood said he had noted a considerable interest in the fund among Kuwaitis who are familiar with the plan. Unlike the stock market which attracts both the speculators and investors, the funds will be of interest only to the latter, Al Hamood said.

### Beijing promises wage rise

## China announces new taxes in tough budget

**BEIJING, March 21.** (AP) Government leaders today said they were slapping new taxes on China's thriving private sector and raising taxes on such items as cars and colour television in an effort to encourage austerity and limit extravagance.

Top leaders, continuing their theme of economic and political retrenchment, also told China's legislature that they were eliminating loans to private and collectively run enterprises.

They unveiled a number of cost-cutting measures and said all Chinese will be expected to file tax returns. They predicted a \$2 billion deficit this year out of a \$79.2 billion budget.

The speeches by Vice-Premier Yao Yilin and Finance Minister Wang Bingqian marked a continuation of the sombre line presented yesterday by Premier Li Peng in his opening speech to the National People's Congress.

### Cuts

Yao and Wang emphasised the need for centralising China's economy, a contrast with calls during last year's congress for bold efforts to move the economy away from rigid central planning.

The leaders told the 2,768 congress delegates in the Great Hall of the People that what China needs now is more control, not more economic freedom.

In his report on the economy, Yao called for huge cuts in construction projects, loans, industrial growth and consumer demand.

He said even successful and necessary projects might have to



Chinese Finance Minister Wang Bingqian delivers a sombre speech to the National People's Congress. Wang promised a wage rise for state workers and more money for agriculture and education to be paid for by higher taxes. (Reuters wirephoto)

be curtailed "if they surpass the capabilities of financial and material resources."

The congress is meeting as China faces severe economic troubles. Inflation has hit a record high 36 per cent, sparking panic buying and bank runs. Rising crime affects China's cities and corruption sullies the halls of government.

Many troubles have been blamed on inflation. In September, China began tackling price rises, slowing reforms designed to introduce elements of a market economy into China's state-run system.

Yao announced an end to loans for fledgling private and

collectively-owned enterprises. He also said all projects outside the state plan would be halted until July unless they were absolutely necessary.

Wang said these enterprises would be hit with an additional 10 per cent surcharge on their after-tax profits. He also slapped a consumption tax on colour television sets and automobiles and said every Chinese would be required to report his income to the authorities.

Wang said wages of government and Communist Party officials would rise along with those of workers this year but he did not say when or by how much.

## Illegal workers rush to leave Singapore

### Amnesty until March 31

**SINGAPORE, March 21.** (UPI) Illegal workers jammed into the Thai embassy's labour office today in a desperate rush to leave Singapore by the end of the month and escape a cane beating and imprisonment.

A line of more than 1,500 stretched from the office in the Bangkok Bank building down eight flights of stairs onto the sidewalk.

"If they keep coming at this rate, we will be in trouble," said Labour Attaché Rachendra Nidhiprabha, fearful the numbers will swell to 8,000 in two days.

So far 5,000 workers, mostly from the construction sector, have asked the office for help in leaving since word of the amnesty spread last week.

Under stringent new amend-

ments to the immigration law, any foreigner who overstays for more than 90 days or enters Singapore illegally can be sentenced to three months jail and at least three strokes of the cane. But Thai authorities and labour officials here agreed to the amnesty until March 31 before implementing the controversial statute.

Rachendra said major constraints in the repatriation process have been a lack of transport and shortage of manpower. He said he has asked for more staff from Bangkok to be flown here to help in the processing.

Officials have also asked Singapore authorities for a two-week extension but are not hopeful the request will be approved.

The embassy is also awaiting a reply from the Thai Navy on the request for a ship to transport the workers back home.

Only 1,000 have been bussed to Thailand so far, officials said, and all of them had passports. Most of those returning up at the labour office are lacking legitimate travel documents, they said.

The unexpected numbers of illegal workers caught Rachendra by surprise. He said he initially expected only 500 people to show up.

Singapore adopted the tough stance on illegal foreign workers, charging they pose a health and security threat and compose 17 per cent of the prison population, imposing a costly burden on the island-republic.



Commercial Facilities Co. opens new branch

Fouad Al Zemer, assistant general manager and Jafar Hassounah, marketing manager, other senior staff and guests of Commercial Facilities Co. pictured celebrating the opening of the new branch in Hawaii. The company is the first to introduce instalment financing for consumer goods in Kuwait.

## De Beers raises diamond prices

**LONDON, March 21.** (Reuters) South African diamond empire De Beers said today its London-based marketing arm, the Central Selling Organisation (CSO), was raising its prices for rough gem diamonds by an average 15.5 per cent.

Industry sources say the CSO controls 80 per cent of world trade in rough diamonds, selling stones from the Soviet Union, Zaire, Australia and Botswana, as well as for De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd.

The increase, the fifth in three years, takes effect at the CSO's next sale, known as a "Sight," on March 28.

Michael Oliver, a market analyst at London stockbroker James Capel, said: "De Beers must feel the market is resilient. It's confirmation things are going very well."

### Sales

Andy Lamont, a spokesman for De Beers, said retail diamond sales in Japan, the second largest market after the United States, had been strong in 1988.

He said Japanese sales had not been depressed by the period of mourning following the death in January of Emperor Hirohito, as was initially feared.

The CSO held 10 sights a year at which about 150 customers representing diamond cutters in Antwerp, Tel Aviv, Bombay and New York, view and pay for gems they have ordered in advance.

The CSO, which last raised prices by 13.5 per cent in May 1988, sold rough diamonds worth a record \$4.17 billion last year, up by 36 per cent from 1987.

### Inflation pressures ease

## Dollar loses ground and gold prices drop

**LONDON, March 21.** (Reuters) The dollar lost more than half a pence in Europe this afternoon on news from Washington that US consumer prices in February had gone up by less than financial markets had expected.

The Labour Department said retail prices rose a modest 0.4 per cent, slower than January's sharp 0.6 per cent rise. The news eased pressure on governments and central banks to raise interest rates to choke off consumer-led inflation.

February's smaller increase in the consumer price index, the most widely used US measure of inflation, reflected more moderate gains in items such as food, tobacco and entertainment.

"This will allow US interest

rates to edge lower and this will push the dollar down," said an economist with Midland Bank in London.

Some investors had bought dollars and gambled on a bigger rise in consumer prices anticipating an interest rates hike which would have given them bigger returns on dollar accounts.

Higher crude oil prices and last Friday's news of a sharp one per cent rise in US February wholesale prices, which eventually work their way to the retail level, in February had caused the intense speculation about higher US interest rates.

A powerful dollar had high US interest rates pressure other countries to put a squeeze on credit which can cause imbalances in world trade.

## Iran to raise \$2.50b in foreign credits

**TEHRAN, March 21.** (OPECNA) The new 1989-90 Iranian budget approved yesterday by parliament (Majlis) authorises the government to raise up to \$2.50 billion in foreign credits to set up infrastructure projects.

### Credits

The Majlis also ordered the Central Bank to allow government agencies to import equipment worth \$1.50 billion for basic industries. However, it laid down that annual payments not exceeding 200 million should come from foreign exchange savings or exports made by newly-established industries.

The Energy Ministry received

the go-ahead to seek credits of up to \$1 billion to build power plants with a total capacity of 4,700 mw, with the proviso that annual repayments should not exceed 150 million.

No estimates were available for 1989-90 oil revenues. The Iranian financial year started yesterday.

The deputies also voted to raise by \$57.10 million the allocation for atomic energy research. The Agriculture Ministry was given \$1.30 billion as part of a plan to make the country self-sufficient in wheat.

Taking into account the demand for more higher educational facilities, the

deputies approved \$100 million for building and completing student housing and 128.60 million for the purchase and equipping of educational buildings.

The Higher Education Ministry was given \$80 million in foreign exchange for purchase of laboratory equipment and books.

The Education Ministry was allocated \$200 million so that more teachers could be employed, following a warning by the Education Minister, Mohammad Ali Najafi, that the system was in need of urgent attention to meet the needs of the growing student population.

### Move to strengthen market stability

## OPEC nations complying with output accord

**BRUSSELS, Belgium, March 21.** (AP) OPEC nations limited their supply of oil to the world market in February, complying for a second consecutive month with a new production accord designed to boost crude prices, the organisation said yesterday.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries said in a statement that output for 12 of its 13 member countries amounted last month to a total of 17.4 million BPD.

The level was unchanged from January and a bit under the ceiling of 17.51 million BPD set for the dozen countries.

The statement, carried by the OPEC news agency, said figures were not available for the United Arab Emirates.

The new figures, it said, were "an indication of the continued determination of member countries to adhere strictly to the November

1988 production agreement and thus contribute to stability in the international oil market."

### Accord

That accord set an overall ceiling, or quota, of 18.5 million BPD for the 13 member countries in the first six months of the year. The agreement, which meant a sharp cut in production from December levels, was struck in an effort to lift prices to a target of \$18 a barrel.

Prices have risen more than \$5 a barrel since the agreement was worked out.

The Soviet Union, the world's largest oil producer, has agreed to join some other non-OPEC nations in trimming exports in the April-June quarter to lend support to the organisation.

The OPEC statement said the promised

cutbacks by the independent producers were "a most welcome development (that) has no doubt contributed in stabilising the market and pushing the price toward (OPEC's target)."

### Hope

"We hope that more independent producers will actively support OPEC efforts and major consumers will also initiate measures in support of market stability," it said.

The International Energy Agency said in its monthly oil market report that the OPEC countries produced about 19.4 million BPD in February, less than in January but nearly a million barrels above their ceiling.

OPEC has said it measures a country's quota by figuring crude production and the amount of oil put into, or drawn out of, stock.

## HOUSEKEEPERS/ NANNIES

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## Outlook bleak for commodity stabilisation agreements

**LONDON, March 21.** (Reuters) The future of world agreements to stabilise commodity prices looks bleak after talks to revive a cocoa accord ended last week in disarray, market analysts say.

In the past Third World countries relied on such agreements to guarantee income to pay off debts while affluent consumers nations also wanted to iron out sharp price fluctuations.

"These things run in cycles, and right now the cycle is against commodity agreements," said International Sugar Organisation (ISO) executive director Alfredo Ricart.

The cocoa pact is in jeopardy because producers have stopped paying the fees which keep it going. Producer debts to the accord total some \$95 million.

The talks which ended last week at the International Cocoa Organisation (ICCO) headquarters in London failed to solve its financial crisis.

The failure of the cocoa accord, and the collapse of the international tin agreement in 1985, leaving millions of dollars in debts and a trail of lawsuits,

has tarnished the reputation of commodity pacts, analysts said.

Over the years there have been price stabilisation agreements involving consumers and producers for tin, rubber, sugar, cocoa, coffee, and wheat.

Only two pacts, covering coffee and rubber, still operate.

"Since the collapse of the tin council it's been downhill all the way, these pacts are a relic of 1960s philosophy, and are now seen as a very inefficient way of giving aid," said an analyst from a leading US commodity trading firm.

Industrialised countries' enthusiasm in the 1960s and 1970s to help poor Third World exporters of raw materials appears to have faded, the analysts said.

Former US President Jimmy Carter's administration backed such agreements, but Ronald Reagan's was not so supportive, said a leading diplomat involved in commodity organisations.

Washington feels commodity prices should be left to market forces and is against intervention to influence them, he said.



LONDON (Alpha Stocks)		
NAME	LAST	CHG
ABBAY LIFE	326.0	
ADT LTD	150.0	
ALD LYONS	455.0	
ALSTRAD	150.0	
ARGILL GP	171.0	
ASDA GP	147.0	
BAA	340.0	
BTR	364.0	
BAT INDS	562.0	
BARCLAYS	435.0	
BASS	923.0	
BEAZER	211.0	
BEECHAMS	580.0	
BERTISFORD	150.0	
BIC PLC	49.0	
BLUE ARROW	91.5	
BLUE CIRC	531.0	
BUC GP	500.0	
BOOTS CO	266.0	
BRF INDS	257.0	
BR COMH	210.0	
BR AIRWAY	192.0	
BR AEROSP	568.0	
BR GAS RG	180.0	
BR LAND	358.0	
B.P.	289.0	
B.P. PP	184.0	
BR STEEL	274.0	
BR TELCOM	561.0	
BURMAN OL	211.0	
CABLESWIR	460.0	
CADBURYS	340.0	
CALOR GRP	896.0	
CLINTON	880.0	
CLINT R T	309.0	
COOKSONS	298.0	
COURTAULD	354.0	
DALGETY	167.0	
DIXONS	524.0	
ENGL CHINA	542.0	
ENTER OIL	171.2	
F&I BACCK	107.0	
FERRANTI	283.0	
FISONS	164.0	
GATEWAY	980.0	
GEN ACCID	236.0	
GEN ELEC	295.0	
GLAXO	385.0	
GRANADA	164.0	
GLOBE	334.0	
GLYNED	210.0	
GUARD RYL	360.0	
GNL	415.0	
GUINNESS	785.0	
HANSON	182.0	
HARRISON	715.0	
HUKER SID	665.0	
HILLSDOWN	277.0	

LONDON (Beta Stocks)		
NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	852.0	852.0
600 GROUP	125.0	126.0
A.AMER TS	422.0	423.0
A.B.ELECT	443.0	441.0
A.S.W.HLD	252.0	252.0
AAB KENT	102.0	102.0
AAH HLD	390.0	390.0
AARONSON	118.0	118.0
ADDISON	38.0	37.4
ADVEST	173.0	173.0
ALEX WRKV	185.0	185.0
ALEXON	389.0	388.0
ALLD COLL	131.0	132.0
ALLD IR B	295.0	295.0
ALLD LON	145.0	145.0
ALLD PART	77.0	77.0
ALLIANCE	959.0	961.0
AMBER DAY	54.0	54.0
AMEC	423.0	424.0
AMER TST	132.0	132.4
AMERSHAM	510.0	511.0
AMH HLTHC	330.0	333.0
ANGLIA TV	275.0	277.0
ANSBACHER	76.0	76.0
APPLYDAY	454.0	455.0
APV PLC	151.0	151.0
ASHLEY LA	107.0	107.0
AUS REE A	256.0	255.0
AUST REE	389.0	385.0
AUTO SECS	280.0	280.0
AVDEL PLC	99.4	99.0
AVESCO	139.0	140.0
AVIS EUR	379.0	378.0
AVON RUBB	632.0	630.0
B.MEMHILL	243.0	244.0
BAILL JAP	511.0	513.0
BAILL SHI	91.0	91.0
BAIRD (N)	241.0	241.0
BANK IRE	295.0	295.0
BANKER IT	85.4	86.0
BARON GP	166.0	166.0
BARRY DEV	201.0	202.0
BAYNES C	29.0	29.0
SBA GROUP	185.0	185.0
BEAR BRND	10.6	10.6
BEATTIE J	164.0	165.0
BELHAVEN	50.0	51.0
BELLWAY	248.0	248.0
BENROSE	247.0	248.0
BENLOX HD	62.0	62.0
BENKLEY	257.0	257.0
BHH GROUP	121.4	121.0
BK OF SCO	101.0	102.0
BLACK LE 2	13.0	12.6
BLM GROUP	450.0	453.0
BNETT + F	115.0	115.0
BOASE HAS	307.0	305.0
BODDINGTH	189.0	190.0
BOOTH SHP	550.0	548.0
BOOTH HENR	459.0	458.0
BORTHWICK	41.0	41.0

NEW YORK		
NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
A.BSCH COM	33.6	33.4
ATLANTIC R	90.4	90.1
AAR CORP	27.5	27.3
ABBOTT LAB	51.6	51.5
ACME CLVD	9.5	9.6
ADV MICRO	8.3	8.3
AEROFI LAB	5.1	5.0
AETNA LIFE	50.4	50.0
AMHNSON	16.7	16.6
AIR PR-CHM	42.2	42.1
ALASKA AIR	24.1	24.0
ALBERTSONS	39.3	39.1
ALBMA B-16	0	80.2
ALCAN ALUM	31.3	31.1
ALCO STAND	26.0	25.7
AM CAP SEC	20.7	20.7
AM CYANAMID	50.3	50.3
AM FAMILY	16.0	15.7
AM HON PRO	84.6	84.6
AM STNDRD	0	77.7
AM STORES	56.0	56.0
AM TEL-TEL	32.0	32.0
AMCO CORP	80.1	80.1
AMP INC	41.4	41.4
AMPCO PITT	0	14.4
AMR CORP	58.6	58.2
AMR GEN CO	33.3	33.2
AMERADA HE	36.0	36.0
AMERICAN	9.0	8.7
APACHE CP	8.6	8.5
APPL 8-12	0	82.0
ARMSTRONG	35.6	35.7
ASHLAND OIL	40.1	40.1
ASIA PACIF	8.4	8.5
ATLS CORP	28.4	28.6
AVERTY INT	23.1	22.7
AVNET INC	22.2	22.1
AVON PRODS	21.6	21.4
BCE INC	30.7	30.5
BELLSOUTH	40.7	40.7
BELO CP A	25.2	25.1
BETH STEEL	24.0	23.7
BEVERLY	9.2	9.3
BNK BOSTON	25.0	24.7
BNK BOSTN-A	0	39.5
BNK N-YORK	44.2	44.0
BNK TR-NY	40.7	40.7
BKAMERICA	22.0	21.7
BKAMERICA	6.4	6.3
BOEING CO	66.2	66.0
BOISE CASC	42.0	42.0
BOND IN GLD	8.7	8.6
BORDEN	57.0	56.3
BOWLER	27.0	27.0
BR TELECOM	47.7	47.3
BRIGGS-STY	27.0	27.1
BRIST-MYER	46.2	46.0
BRUNSWICK	17.2	17.1
C 3 INC	10.3	10.2
C HLD E-EL	21.0	21.1
CABOT CORP	42.6	42.6
CAESARS HD	29.5	29.3
CA FREIGHT	23.4	23.6
CAS NAT GS	14.1	14.1
CASST-COKE	26.1	26.0
CATERPI TR	57.1	57.1
CBI IND	27.4	27.4
CBS	170.1	170.1
CENL CP	66.2	65.6
CHAMP INTL	30.7	30.6
CHAMP SP	21.1	21.1
CHARTER CO	5.2	5.2
CHASE MAN	34.7	34.4
CHEMED CP	33.2	33.2
CHENIC BAK	33.1	33.0
CHRYSLER	53.5	53.3
CHUBB CORP	25.2	25.2
CHUR FR CH	65.7	65.7
CIGNA CORP	52.4	52.2
CIN MILACR	22.1	22.1
CIR CIT ST	42.4	42.4
CIRCLE K	16.0	16.1
CITICORP	28.4	28.1
CLOROX	31.6	31.5
CMPLL RES	1.00	1.00
CMPLL SP	31.4	31.0
COACHMEN	19.1	18.7
COASTAL	34.0	33.7
COCA-COLA	50.2	49.7
COLECO	1.0	1.1
COLEMAN CO	72.7	72.6
COLG-PALM	46.5	46.2
COLUMBUS-C	35.3	35.3
COMEDION	33.2	33.0
CONAGRA	30.6	30.6
CON EDISON	45.2	45.2
CONTINENTAL	32.5	32.5
CONTEL ILLN	40.3	40.2
CONTEL CP	48.7	48.5
CONTE DATA	20.4	20.3
COOPER T-R	25.2	25.0
COOPER COR	3.7	3.7
CORNING GL	33.7	33.4
CRAY RES	58.4	58.1
CULLINEY	5.0	5.0
DANA CORP	38.4	38.3
DANIEL IND	12.1	12.1
DATA GEN	16.1	15.6
DAYTON HUD	45.3	45.1
DEC	107.4	106.6
DEERE CO	51.1	50.6
DELTA AIR	56.6	56.5
DIAMOND SH	19.5	19.5
DIBOND	44.4	44.1
DISNEY W	75.6	75.4
DOVER CORP	28.5	28.3
DOW CHEM	91.6	91.7
DOW JONES	30.3	30.2
DRESSER IN	36.4	36.1
DREYFUS	28.0	27.7
DUKE POWER	43.5	43.4
DUN BRAD	49.4	48.7
DUPONT	102.0	100.5
DUCQUESNE	18.1	18.0
DYNAMICS	0	23.2
E SYSTEMS	27.6	27.2
EAGLE PICH	14.1	14.1
EASTERN G	24.6	24.5
ENERSON EL	30.0	30.1
ENERSON RA	4.0	4.1
ETHYL CP	24.6	24.5
EXON	44.6	44.4
FAN DOL ST	11.3	11.3
FED NAT MD	64.4	64.0
FIELDCREST	25.3	25.3
FLEETWOOD	29.1	29.1
FLETCORP	32.6	32.5
FMC CORP	35.6	35.5
FORD MOTOR	49.3	49.1
FOSTER WIL	16.7	16.7
FRCHLD IND	13.5	13.6
FREE MC OG	4.6	4.6
FST BANK	19.5	19.4
FST CHICAG	38.2	38.3
FST INTERS	46.7	46.3
FST MISSIP	20.0	20.0
CAF CORP	51.4	50.7
GANNETT CO	37.0	36.5
GALVESTON	2.4	2.4
GATX CORP	54.0	53.6
GCA CP	0	5.2
GEN DATA	5.2	5.2

World Indices				
INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1709.5	1690.9	1705.5	1455.3
FT 500 SHR	1170.6	1170.6	1204.7	1008.8
FT ALL SHR	1067.00	67.00	1095.79	926.59
FT GOV SEC	87.98	87.98	88.61	87.03
FT GOLD MN	194.8	194.8	194.2	87.03
FT MINES F	672.65	72.65	677.37	565.31
FT OIL	1989.3	1989.3	2020.4	1725.4
FT MLD DLR	141.32	141.32	143.29	139.21
FT MLD STG	121.01	122.27	123.99	115.30
FT MLD LOC	129.07	129.07	130.63	123.40

**London Stock Market Report**

UK stocks firm, brewers after UK ruling

LONDON, March 21, (Reuters): Stocks were firm after earlier support on Wall Street's favourable response to a smaller than expected 0.4 per cent rise in February US consumer prices.

Brewers partly recovered from initial weakness, after the Monopolies and Mergers Commission ruled that the British beer industry operated against the public interest and that each brewer should own no more than 2,000 public houses.

Breweries with a high number of retail outlets rallied from the lows on a perception that those companies would choose the more profitable retail sector and sell their brewing interests.

At 1630 GMT the FTSE index was 17.0 points up at 2,070.6.

Precious Metals				
LONDON, MARCH 21, REUTER - GOLD BULLION EASED BACK SLIGHTLY TO FIX AT 392.75 DLR AN OUNCE FOLLOWING NEWS U.S. FEBRUARY CONSUMER PRICES ROSE A SMALLER THAN EXPECTED 0.4 PCT.				
GOLD HAD FIXED THIS MORNING AT 394.10 AGAINST MONDAY'S 395.75/396.25 CLOSE.				
DEALERS SAID BUSINESS REMAINED SLOW AFTER THE DATA WITH OPERATORS SHOWING ONLY MILD REACTION TO THE FIGURES WHICH POINT TO LOWER INFLATION AND, IN TURN, PRESSURE ON PRECIOUS METALS.				
SHORT TERM SUPPORT FOR GOLD IS NOW SEEN AROUND THE 392 DLR AREA. PRECIOUS METALS IS EXPECTED TO REMAIN QUIET FOR THE REST OF THE SESSION, THEY ADDED.				

London Money Market				
LONDON, MARCH 21, REUTER - BRITISH MONEY RATES MAINTAINED AN EASIER BIAS THROUGHOUT THE DAY AS MARKET FEARS OF A POSSIBLE HIKE IN U.S. INTEREST RATES RECEDED AFTER NEWS OF A LOWER THAN EXPECTED U.S. FEBRUARY INFLATION FIGURE.				
A 0.4 PCT RISE IN THE U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) WAS SLIGHTLY LOWER THAN MARKET EXPECTATIONS AND COMPARED WITH A 0.6 PCT INCREASE IN JANUARY.				
DEALERS SAID SPECULATION HAD BEEN MOUNTING SINCE LAST FRIDAY'S SURPRISINGLY LARGE 1.0 PCT RISE IN THE U.S. PRODUCER PRICE INDEX THAT ANY FURTHER SIGNS OF GROWING INFLATION MIGHT PRESSURE THE FEDERAL RESERVE INTO TIGHTENING CREDIT.				

Foreign Exchange				
DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPG
1.7140/50	1.7150/60	1.8750/60	6.3330/60	NOON
DMK 1.8710/8790	3.207/221	3.2130/65	29.45/61	FIX
FFR 6.345/557	10.881/899	338.33/97	25.47/50	FIX
SFR 1.6170/6180	2.7715/7749	86.24/34	33.31	FIX
NFL 2.1165	3.6280	112.82	7.05381	CLSE
ECU 1.11084	.647718	2.08315	8.25451	CLSE
SDR 1.30023	.758682	2.43806		NOON
YEN 131.50/60	225.39/70			
SDR RATE	20/03/1989	OTHERS	21/03/1989	

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices				
INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-QR	PREV-YR
AUSTRALIA	287.9	290.0	288.6	307.0
AUSTRIA	269.7	267.8	265.7	226.7
BELGIUM	441.4	447.2	446.6	412.8
CANADA	387.3	391.6	395.5	350.7
DENMARK	595.7	599.9	599.5	464.5
FRANCE	453.3	455.9	462.1	396.1
GERMANY	204.1	207.8	207.9	195.6
HONG KONG	2303.5	2366.2	2378.8	1812.7
FINLAND	123.7	125.0	124.8	112.1
ITALY	459.4	464.2	462.8	439.5
JAPAN	1429.8	1447.7	1547.8	1289.0
NETHERLANDS	291.0	291.5	297.6	262.1
NEW ZEAL	90.8	92.8	95.5	93.9
NORWAY	711.3	721.8	725.2	483.0
SPAIN	685.0	692.7	691.2	587.0
SPOKE	242.2	242.9	243.0	250.5
SWEDEN	1230.6	1240.5	1235.5	960.4
SWITZ	182.9	184.7	184.3	163.6
U.K.	625.4	631.4	634.3	551.2
U.S.A.	266.8	269.5	275.6	250.6
WORLD	493.6	500.2	507.6	446.2
E.A.F.E.	937.6	951.9	962.9	832.0

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CH2M PACIFIC	19/1	18/7	MARRIOTT	30/2	30/0
COACHMEN	9/3	9/3	MASCO CORP	25/0	24/7
COASTAL	34/0	33/7	MATSU ELEC	185/0	184/0
COCA-COLA	50/2	49/7	MATTEL INC	11/4	11/4
COLECO	1/0	1/1	MCA INCORP	51/5	51/0
COLEMAN CO	72/7	72/6	MCDONALDS	49/6	49/3
COLG-PALM	46/3	46/2	MCDONNELL	89/4	89/4
COLUM GAS	35/3	35/3	MCGRAW-HIL	66/1	65/4
COLUMBUS-C	0	112/0	MEAD	37/1	36/7
COM EDISON	33/2	33/0	MERCK - CO	64/1	63/5
CONAGRA	30/6	30/5	MEREDITH	30/7	30/7
CON EDISON	45/2	45/2	MERRILL LY	27/5	27/5
CONTINENTA	32/5	32/3	MESA OFFSH	1/4	1/5
CONTL ILLN	*03	*02	MOBIL OIL	49/7	49/5
CONTEL CP	48/7	48/5	MONSANTO	92/2	91/6
CONTR DATA	20/4	20/3	MONTANA PO	34/5	34/4
COOPER T-R	25/2	25/0	MORGAN JP	38/0	37/7
COOPER CON	3/7	3/7	MORT THIO	44/4	44/2
CORNING GL	33/7	33/4			

Dow Jones Plus Indices				
	LAST	CHANGE	HIGH	LOW
IND.	2,269.29	+ 6.79	2,283.21	2,262.32
TRANS	1,028.78	+ 2.58	1,034.77	1,026.68
UTILS	182.37	+ 0.29	182.97	182.08
STOCKS	859.48	+ 2.29	864.25	857.15
NYSE COMP	163.66	+ 0.53		
S-P COMPOSITE	291.00	+ 1.08		
NYSE INDS	197.82	+ 0.72		
AMEX INDEX	326.07	+ 0.58		
AMEX COMP	400.26	+ 1.76		
NASD BANK'NG	453.96	+ 0.44		
NASD FIN'L	481.63	+ 1.13		
NASD INDS	391.88	+ 1.60		
S-P 100 INDEX	274.96	+ 0.69		



## International Bond Highlights

AT THE annual Inter-American Development Bank meeting in Amsterdam, US assistant Treasury Secretary David Mulford said a deal on a new cash injection is within reach after three years of negotiations. (XLEA 1335)

Ecuador Finance Minister Jorge Gallardo said his country expects to sign a 600 mtr debt development loan with the World Bank next month. (XLEA 1053)

A senior government official said Venezuela expects to make a decision this week or next on how to restructure its bank advisory committee. (XLEA 1114)

Mulford said he hoped a basic consensus on Washington's new debt initiative can be reached at the IMF interim committee meeting in Washington early next month. (XLEA 1324)

Finance Ministers of eight Latin American countries agreed to meet after the IMF to review the Brady debt initiative. Uruguay's Finance Minister Ricardo Zerbino said. (XLEA 1115)

Argentine Central Bank Governor Jose Luis Machinea said economic reform, a key ingredient of the new US debt plan, will not bring a speedy return of flight capital to Latin American economies. (XLEA 1552)

Mexico's Finance Minister Pedro Aspe said debt-equity swaps have a distorting effect on economic adjustment processes in debtor countries. (XLEA 1414)

London — General Electric Capital Corp., a unit of General Electric Co. is issuing a 300 mln dollar Eurobond due March 21, 1991 paying 10-1/2 pct and priced at 100.95, lead manager Kidder Peabody International said. (XLEA 1528)

## Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 13 12-3/4	12-15/16 7/8	13-1/16 12-15/16
FFT 5:00/90	6.25/35	6.50/70
PFR 8-5/8 3/4	8-11/16 13/16	9-1/8 1/4
BUR 4-5/8 4-7/8	5-1/2 5-3/4	5-3/4 6
ZIR 7-25	8-1/16 1/8	8-5/16 7/16
ROM 12-3/4 13-1/4	12-5/8 13-1/8	12-7/8 13-3/8
AM 6.37/50	6.56/66	6.77/87
TOK 4.4/32 6/32	4.27/32 29/32	4.24/32 26/32
ECU 8.12 8.37	8.50 8.62	8.81 8.93

## Interest Rates

Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait today.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	8-11/16	9-3/16
3 months	8-15/16	9-7/16
6 months	9-1/16	9-1/2
1 year	9-3/16	9-1/16

## BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	CEN SPG	1730	1720	1740	GSFC	151.75	150	155
ACC	294	290	287	COLGATE	335	335	335	GIJ ALK	12	13
ALC CHEN	---	---	---	CROMPT GR	800	790	800	GIJ HEAVY	12	13
ALM NIS	---	---	---	DCM	11	10	11	HIND MONDA	30	30
ARI FAS	---	---	---	DEEP FERT	34	33	33	HIND CIBA	920	900
ASHOK LEY	68.50	67	68	DUNLOP	74	70	72	HIND COCA	106.25	105
ASIA PATAT	215	210	212.50	EI HOTELS	56	55	56	HIND LEVER	78	79
ATLAS COP	45	44	46	ESKAYE	63	62.50	61	HIND MOTOR	38.50	38.25
AUTO CORP	72	70	72	ESKAYE	128.75	127.50	130	HINDALCO	268	266
BAJAJ AUTO	367.50	365	367.50	ESSAR SPG	21.75	21.25	20	HOCHTIT	720	720
BAJAJ RAYON	340	335	335	FOOD SPL	---	---	---	HIND ORG	26	25.50
BE BOND	137.50	137	135	FORBES	60	59	61	HIND RAYON	86	85.50
BEI PLAST	---	---	---	GAIR POLY	77.50	72.50	75	INDROL	290	287.50
BOM DYE	128	127	128.50	GE SHIPPING	34.50	34.50	34.25	INGERSOLL	360	360
BURR MEL	185	180	185	GLINDIA	90	90	90	RECKITT	160	157.50
CANSAHAR	170	---	---	GWFC	46	45	45	RELIANCE	119	115
CEN ENKA	2650	2660	2690	GRATIN	100.75	100	101.50	---	---	---

## FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AEG	212.0
ALLIANZ VR	171.0
BADENWERK	184.5
BASF	283.3
BAYER	294.0
BAYER WYP	358.0
BAYER VER	368.0
BBC	448.0
BIF	486.0
BHW	509.5
COMMERZBANK	241.6
CONTI GUM	254.0
DATMER BEN	650.0
DEUTSCH BANK	505.0
DLW	473.0
DRESNER B	306.0
DT BAROCOR	166.0
FAZ INDEX	548.54
FELDMUEHLE	333.5
GOLOSCHWITZ	384.5
HANDELMANN	459.0
HOECHST AG	294.7
HOECHST	243.0
HORTEN	227.0
HUSSEL HALD	462.0
KALI SALZ	210.0
KARSTADT	422.0
KAUFHOFF	414.5
KLOECK H	174.0
KLOECK W	155.8
LINDE	765.0
LUFTHANSA	157.5
MAN	250.0
MANNESSMAN	225.5
MERCEDES	524.0
METALLGES	399.0
NIXDORF	295.5
NORDK. IFF	44.00
PHILIP KOP	682.0
PORSCHE	720.0
PREUSSAG	244.0
PVA	292.5
RHEINMETAL	452.0
RUE	244.7
RUE P	215.0
SALAMANDER	328.0
SCHERING	602.5
SEL	295.8
SIEMENS	524.8
THYSEN	222.1
VARIA	352.0
VEBA	284.5
VEW	170.8
VOLKSWAGEN	339.0

## HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
C H TUNNEL	15.40
CHENGLU K	10.10
CHINA GAS	19.00
CHINA L-P	13.70
CHINA MOP	30.00
CHINA PROP	3.60
EVERGOLD	3.30
FAR EAST C	96
GEN ORIENT	0
G C DEVELOP	11.70
H S INDEX	56.43
HANG LUNG	6.30
HANG SENG	31.75
HAW PAR BR	12.20
HK ELEC CO	7.45
HK KOWLOON	11.10
HK LAND CO	10.90
HK SHAN BK	7.55
HK SHAN HT	6.20
HK TELE CO	5.30
HUTCH MAN	10.40
IND EQ PAC	11.10
JARDINE H	19.80
KOWLOON M	9.40
NEW WORLD	14.60
PAUL Y CON	1.55
REALTY DEV	7.60
S H K CO	2.65
S H K PROP	14.30
SHINE DARY	3.05
STELLUX MFG	3.25
SWIRE PAC	21.00
T V B CO	1.29
TAT CHEUNG	5.65
UNION BANK	1.78
WOCK HAD	0
WOCK HAT	0
WORLD INTL	4.97

## Pesticide hunt goes on

## Britain imposes channel fishing ban

LONDON, March 21. (Reuters): Britain banned fishing in a large area of the channel today as French minnowers hunted for a container filled with deadly pesticide which scientists say could cause an environmental disaster.

A spokeswoman for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said Britain had banned fishing within a 12 km (7-1/2 mile) radius of where the container was thought to be.

She described the measure as a precaution and said there was no evidence that the six tonnes of lindane, one of the world's 12 most dangerous pesticides, had started leaking into the sea.

"We are assisting in taking samples, and so far all the samples we've had have been negative," the spokeswoman said.

Dr Paul Johnston, a researcher at Queen Mary College, London, for the environmentalist group Greenpeace, described lindane as a highly persistent chemical which could accumulate in the sea and find its way into the food chain, posing a long-term threat to human health.

Function "We do know lindane is a carcinogenic (cancer-causing) material. We also know it affects liver function... it's a very potent biological compound indeed," he said.

"If that container breaks, this material will probably float around and be washed up on beaches all over the place."

The French minnowhunters Orion and Clio resumed the search for the container from the Indonesian freighter Perintis, which sank in gales northwest of the Channel Island of Guernsey last week.

A French tug recovered three of the ship's containers and the contents of two others, but the lindane container sank while being towed to port last Thursday.

France has already banned in an area of 100 square nautical miles north of the Normandy peninsula and the Channel Islands, saying fishing equipment could churn up the sea bed and hinder the search.

The British spokeswoman said samples of sea water were also being examined for permethrin, another pesticide, contained in 32 drums still believed to be in the hold of the Perintis.

"We will be retrieving the drums of permethrin as soon as we can, but so far there has been no contamination from them," the spokeswoman said.

The sole makers of lindane, the French state-owned chemical giant Rhone-Poulenc, said in Paris the pesticide was packed in polythene bags inside thick paper drums and sealed in a steel shipping container. The company said there was little danger of pollution from lindane.

"It is classified by the World Health Organisation among moderately dangerous products. It is known, however, that this product is toxic for fish," a company statement said.

"Lindane is bio-degradable, notably in sea-water, and accumulates very little (in the ecosystem). For this reason, there is no risk of accumulation in the food chain."

The British ministry spokeswoman said: "If the lindane was all gushing out in one massive leak, it would obviously have quite serious environmental consequences."

## Airbus announces new management structure

PARIS, March 21. (Reuters): The fourth-nation Airbus Industrie consortium today announced a boardroom shake-up aimed at making the loss-making European aircraft-maker more cost efficient and competitive.

The changes, which will tighten up management and financial control, include the appointment for the first time of a finance director, a reduction in supervisory board members to five from 17, and the creation of an executive board.

Airbus Industrie said in a statement the financial director would be responsible for ensuring full and open accounts throughout the group, forcing the Airbus partners for the first time to divulge their costs.

Robert Smith, currently finance director of British Aerospace PLC's royal ordnance subsidiary, has been appointed to the newly created post.

Smith will be one of a new seven-member executive board. Its other members will be Jean Pierson of France, who continues as Airbus Industrie managing director, West Germany's Herbert Flosdorff, who has

been named as chief operating officer responsible for the day-to-day business of Airbus Industrie, and senior executives of the four partner companies.

The slimmed-down supervisory board will continue as the main overall policy control body, with responsibility over strategic decisions concerning current and future Airbus programmes.

Losses It said the changes stemmed in part from a report on the workings of Airbus Industrie submitted to the governments of the four partner countries last year by four industrialists, the so-called "four wise men."

The consortium, set up in 1970 and funded by France, West Germany, Britain and Spain, has seen its losses aggravated by a weak dollar, the currency in which aircraft sales are priced.

Airbus is owned 38 per cent each by France's Aerospatiale and West Germany's Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blohm (MBB), 20 per cent by British Aerospace PLC and four per cent by Spain's Construcciones Aeronauticas SA (CASA).

## AMMAN

ALADDIN COMPANY	OPMG	CLSG
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	---	---
ARAB BANK	---	---
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.65	4.62
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.44	2.41
ARAB INSURANCE	1.03	1.05
ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	---	---
ARAB INT. UNION INS	1.25	1.23
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	---	---
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.35	2.35
ARAB PAPER COM/TRA	0.43	0.45
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	---	---
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	---	---
BEIT AL-MAL/BEITNA	1.00	0.95
BEIJING INSURANCE	31.00	EC
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	1.05	1.25
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	---	---
DAR AL SHAH PRESS	---	---
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.	---	---
DARCO/INVEST/HOUSE	---	---
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75	0.71
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.55	4.60
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.35	1.27
GENERAL MINING	2.20	2.10
HILWEN MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44
IND. MATCH JENCO	---	---
INDSTR. DEVLPT BSK	---	---
INDSTR. COMM/AGR.	---	---
INDSTR. INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTERN. COM/INV	0.13	0.13
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.90	0.90
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	---	---
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	20.00	19.50
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	---	---
JOR EAGLE INS.	---	---
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	25.05	25.05
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	2.30	2.30
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	1.20	1.20
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	---	---
JOR INS AND FIN.	---	---
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.79	0.83
JOR LIM BRICK	---	---
JOR PAPER CARD/BOG	3.75	3.60
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	---	---
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	---	---
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	1.79	1.72
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.40
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	---	---
JOR SECURIT CORP.	1.12	1.11
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	---	---
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	---	---
JOR WORSTED MLL	5.60	5.40
JOR. KAMAIT AGR	---	---
JOR. PETROLEUM REF	---	---
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.45	5.45
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	---	---
JORDAN GULF REAL	---	---
JORDAN DAIRY	---	---
JORDAN GULF BANK	---	---
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	---	---
JORDAN ISLAMIC BSK	2.05	2.05
JORDAN KAMAIT BANK	---	---
JORDAN TANNING	2.01	2.05
JORDAN TANNING	0.74	0.75
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	---	---
MACH/RENT/MAIN	0.69	0.73
MAS INDUSTRIES	1.17	1.17
MID EAST EXCHANGE	0.80	0.80
MIDDLE EAST HOTEL	1.80	1.80
MIDDLE EAST INS.	---	---
MINERALS RESEARCH	0.74	0.75
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	---	---
NAT. IND. INVEST CO	---	---
NATIONAL AULIA INS	1.39	1.35
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	---	---
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	---	---
NATIONAL STEEL	0.25	0.28
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	2.60	2.55
PETRA BANK	0.35	0.35
PETRA JOR. INS.	1.10	1.11
PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.82	1.91
RAJIA INDUSTRIAL	---	---
REAL ESTATE INV.	---	---
SHIPPING LINES	---	---
SPINNING WEAVING	---	---
THE HOUSING BANK	1.18	1.16
UNITED INSURANCE	---	---
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	0.65	0.68
UNIVERSAL INS.	1.00	1.03
WOOLEN INDUSTRIES	---	---
YARMOUK INSURANCE	---	---

## PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL	STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	75.00	75.50	75.00
AC-A	14.50	14.75	14.50	LC-B	30	31	31	30
ANS	2.85	2.90	2.85	PK-A	28	29	29	29
GO	11.50	12.00	11.50	PK-B	29	30	30	30
PLOT	250.00	252.50	252.50	BP	0.15	0.16	0.15	0.15
KPSI-A	3.25	3.20	3.20	BP-B	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.06
KPSI-B	3.60	4.00	3.60	LC-A	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
SNC-A	150.00	151.00	150.00	LC-B	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
SNC-B	242.00	243.00	242.00	LC-C	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
MINING	---	---	---	OPM-A	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
APX-A	0.02	0.02	0.02	OPM-B	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
APX-B	0.02	0.02	0.02	OV-A	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
AT-A	42.00	42.50	42.50	OV-B	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03

## Makati Stock Market Report

OFFICIAL INFORMATION	SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES	CHANGES
COMM-IND.	333,020	5,655,650	964.22	1.89	DN
MINING	90,290,950	78,517,750	4,937.53	25.43	DN
OIL	797,250,000	18,688,100	6.581	0.089	UP
TOTAL	887,875,970	102,861,500	877.02	1.92	UP

## PHILIPPINES MANILA

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL	STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	75.00	75.50	75.00
SNC-A	150.00	151.00	150.00	LC-B	30	31	31	30



## Privatisation trend gathering momentum

## Arab states urge investors to boost private investment

BAHRAIN, March 21. (Reuters): Gulf Arab states are urging private investors to be more active in the region's economy in a bid to parcel out the management burden and repatriate billions of dollars invested abroad.

Gulf economists and bankers say scope may be limited, but rising share prices and plans by some governments of the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) to sell off assets show the privatisation trend is gathering momentum.

A ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war last August and higher risks from fluctuating foreign exchange rates has boosted local investor confidence, paving the way for the return of some of an estimated \$160 billion of GCC private overseas assets.

## Conducive

"Overall, the atmosphere is much more conducive towards privatisation and governments are encouraging this trend," Gulf International Bank (GIB) economist Henry Azzam told Reuters.

"If this mood of confidence continues to grow, it is not far fetched to think of a situation whereby investors will start to increase their exposure in the domestic market."

The GCC and economic and defence

grouping founded in May 1981, comprises Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Bahrain announced last month it had approved plans to sell its stake in some state-run firms, starting with national hotel companies, after its New Stock Exchange opens on March 30.

At the same time, the island's second-biggest offshore bank, Arab Banking Corporation (ABC), said it was studying plans for a public share flotation in Arab markets. ABC is owned by Abu Dhabi, Kuwait and Libya.

## Plans

Saudi officials say they are considering plans to float at least part of the kingdom's stake in the state-owned oil company Petromin, the national carrier Saudia Airlines, and Gulf International Bank, ABC's main rival.

Directors of the regional carrier Gulf Air — owned by the governments of Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and Abu Dhabi — said last November they would float shares for half the airline's paid-up capital if it made a profit in 1988, which it did.

Bankers say GCC governments, their budgets still under pressure from lower oil

income, have much to gain from privatisation.

"This policy will open new avenues for investors in the country, giving them outlets for cash surpluses which they may be holding now in the form of bank deposits," Hassan Juman, general manager of the National Bank of Bahrain told Reuters.

"It could lead to the return of capital outside the country and should relieve the government of the burden of managing these investments which are really private businesses."

## Owners

GCC states are still major owners of shares in their respective stock markets. Selling some of these would generate new revenues and increase the supply of shares to fledgling capital markets, economists say.

But the lack of depth to the region's stock markets is in itself a barrier to large-scale privatisation.

"Gulf states cannot privatise in a big way because the mechanism is not yet there," Azzam said.

"They will not just dump shares on the market, they will do it slowly, gradually, so

prices will not be depressed. At the moment there is a lot of demand vis-a-vis the supply."

Four new public share flotations in Saudi Arabia last year were heavily oversubscribed. The kingdom's stock market index rose 11.1 per cent during 1988, with share prices of one firm — Sabic Petrochemical Company — skyrocketing 167 per cent.

Shares in the UAE and Bahrain also performed well with price increases of more than 50 per cent for some stocks.

## Exchange

Kuwait is the only GCC country which has an actual trading floor at present, but Oman is planning to open an exchange soon after the Bahraini floor begins operating.

An exchange which opened in Saudi Arabia in 1987 was closed after three weeks because of what bankers termed religious objections from the country's conservative religious community.

In another indication of growing investor confidence, businessmen from six GCC states and Iraq last month finalised plans for a new industrial investment company.

## Iran and Malaysia sign trade agreement

NICOSIA, Cyprus, March 21. (AP): Malaysia and Iran signed a trade agreement today, under which Malaysia will sell rubber and tin in return for oil and carpets, and reported an "upward trend" in their relations, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agreement was signed in Tehran by Malaysian Foreign Minister Haji Abu Hassan Omar, shortly before he ended a four-day visit, and Iran's acting Commerce Minister, Abdul-Hussein Vahaji.

Before leaving Tehran, Omar said the agreement, the first trade accord between the two Muslim countries, was a "positive move" and said Malaysia was ready to take part in Iran's post-war reconstruction, IRNA reported.

## Unity

Both sides called for greater Islamic unity and welcomed the denunciation by the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference of British author Salman Rushdie as an apostate for his alleged blasphemy of the Muslim faith in his novel The Satanic Verses.

The denunciation was made at an OIC foreign ministers' conference in Saudi Arabia last week. But it did not endorse Ayatollah Khomeini's death sentence on the writer.

Under the trade agreement, Iran will export oil, carpets, caviar, nuts, fruit, cast iron, medicines and other goods to Malaysia.

In return, it will import Malaysian tin, rubber, paper, timber, vegetable oil, palm, textiles, fertilisers and other materials, IRNA said.

Vahaji stressed that Iran supported efforts to form an Islamic common market and urged Malaysia to help in that direction.

IRNA said that in a final communiqué, Omar and Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati endorsed efforts to solve the problem of Kampuchea and called for the withdrawal of foreign forces from that south-east Asian country.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

## OECD calls for economic deregulation

PARIS, March 21. (Reuters): The OECD yesterday called on developed nations to deregulate their economies further, saying the process which began at the beginning of the 1980s had far from run its course.

In a new study, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development said industrial nations still had room to dismantle rigidities in labour markets, financial markets, industrial structures and the public sector.

Hartmut Fest, OECD deputy director and one of the report's authors, told a news conference: "The message ... is that all OECD economies by now accept that governments are not best-placed to solve the imperfections or even the malfunction of the markets."

Faced with persistent world trade imbalances and an unwillingness to risk pushing the dollar still lower, the seven major industrial nations (G-7) have relied increasingly on structural change to achieve growth, particularly in Europe.

## British oil firm to invest \$70m in Gabon

LIBREVILLE, March 21. (OPECNA): A British oil and gas company, Lasmo, which has been operating in Gabon since 1982, plans to drill over 10 wells and invest \$70 million in the country within the next five years.

British Gas, another company, also has a presence in Gabon, having negotiated exploration rights held by the US company, Tenneco. It currently holds five offshore and onshore exploration permits.

These and other companies are now taking part in an international trade fair in the Gabonese capital, Mark Godfellow, British Ambassador to Gabon, said here that British participation in the fair was aimed at strengthening existing co-operation links and trade ties with Gabon.

Michel Teale, Gabon's foreign trade director, also sees British participation as a sign of growing trade links between the two countries. Until 1986, the balance of trade was in Gabon's favour, a situation which has since changed, Gabon is keen to intensify trade with Britain so that the trade balance can be restored.

## IDB to extend \$55m in loans to 5 states

RABAT, March 21. (OPECNA): The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) is to extend \$55 million in loans to finance six new foreign trade transactions in five member states, bringing total IDB financing since August 1988 to \$513 million.

Senegal will receive \$7.50 million for the import of sulphur, followed by Bangladesh (four million) for import of clinker, Egypt (10 million) for purchase of spare parts for its chemical plants, Iraq (3.50 million) for import of natural rubber and Turkey (30 million) for the import of fertilisers and scrap iron.

The allocations were announced at the end of the 13th session of the IDB governing board presided over by IDB president Dr Ahmad Mohamad Ali.

The two-day meeting also reviewed the bank's activities and its future financing plans in member states.

## Auction house reports big profits jump

LONDON, March 21. (Reuters): Christies International, the world's second biggest fine art auction house, today reported a 31 per cent rise in profits for 1988, the year it sold the most expensive 20th century work of art.

"The quality and range of works of art coming for auction, together with the current price levels being obtained, is most encouraging," said chairman Lord Carrington.

Pre-tax profits rose to £42.5 million (£73.1 million) from £32.5 million (\$55.9 million), while turnover rose by 24 per cent to £120.3 million (\$206.9 million).

Sales of impressionist and modern works of art accounted for a large proportion of turnover, Carrington said.

## OPEC, non-OPEC ministers to meet

## Joint oil meeting to discuss ways to stabilise market

KUWAIT, March 21. (AP): Oil ministers of the 13 member states of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries will meet in Vienna on March 31 with representatives of 11 oil countries outside the organisation to discuss co-operation, the Kuwait News Agency reported today.

"The aim of the meeting is to look into ways of stabilising the oil market and shoring up prices to reach the OPEC reference price of \$18 a barrel," KUNA quoted a ranking Gulf oil industry official as saying.

The official, who was not named, said that the March 31 meeting replaces a meeting originally set for March 29 between non-OPEC producers and OPEC's monitoring and long-term strategy committee comprising eight ministers.

The non-OPEC countries that will be represented in Vienna are: Egypt, Oman, Malaysia, Mexico, the Soviet Union, Angola, Colombia, China, North

Yemen, Brunei and Norway. Representatives from Texas and Alaska also are expected to attend, the source told KUNA.

The OPEC secretariat in Vienna has not confirmed the KUNA report.

## Sessions

Full ministerial sessions of OPEC are held twice annually, with the next meeting scheduled for June.

OPEC headquarters has announced that the 13 member states have complied for the second month running with restricted individual oil production quotas enforced Jan 1 to bolster the oil prices.

The organisation has been seeking the co-operation of independent producers to help absorb the glut on the world market that has been pressuring the prices downward for two years.

Several independent producers have expressed readiness to co-operate, but there are differences on how to go about it. Seven have voiced readiness to reduce their oil exports by five per cent from April 1.

## Production

A meeting at ministerial level between the two blocs was held in April 1988, when the non-OPEC countries sought a five per cent reduction in overall production by their countries as well as OPEC's. The organisation refused.

A meeting at experts level between the two groups was held in January, and representatives of non-OPEC producers met separately in February.

A Kuwaiti oil official, who asked not to be named, confirmed a joint meeting of OPEC and non-OPEC ministers had been tentatively agreed. "There is a proposal which has been tentatively accepted by both sides," he said.



IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus addresses the Inter-American Development Bank's (IADB) annual meeting in Amsterdam on Monday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## IMF may alter role under Brady plan

AMSTERDAM, March 21. (Reuters): The head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said yesterday the fund would consider extending loans to Third World countries without full assurance of additional financing support from other creditors.

IMF managing director Michel Camdessus' remarks, in his first public statement on US

Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady's debt plan, signalled a departure from the fund's traditional lending policies.

Brady outlined his debt reduction initiative on March 10. An institution with a preferred creditor status has to be willing to take the lead, Camdessus said at the Inter-American Development Bank's (IADB) annual meeting here.

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ALUBAF ARAB INTERNATIONAL BANK E.C.

## ANNOUNCES

## ALUBAF MINT GUARANTEED FUND LIMITED

Offer closes 17 April, 1989

## A POWERFUL INVESTMENT COMBINATION

"The impressive thing about Mint is the consistency of its returns. It has scored an average annual return of 30% since beginning in 1981."

## THE ECONOMIST

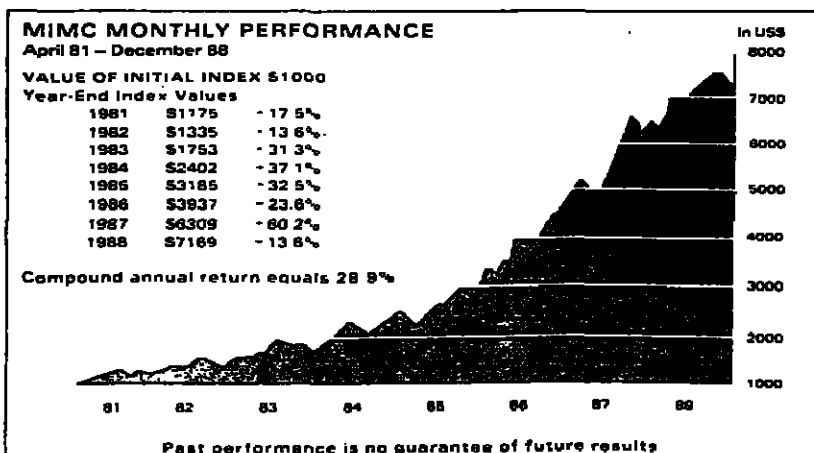
August 13, 1988, New York

To provide additional liquidity from 1 May 1990, ALUBAF has undertaken to make a secondary market in the Units. The price of Units in the secondary market will be set by reference to the prevailing net asset value of Units and supply and demand factors. A bid/offer spread of no more than 5% will apply.

## THE GUARANTEE

ALUBAF Arab International Bank E.C. will issue a Guarantee to subscribers which will ensure that they will receive at least their original investment at maturity of the Fund. ALUBAF has agreed to issue the Guarantee to subscribers on condition that the Fund purchase and charge to ALUBAF, US Treasury zero coupon bonds maturing at maturity of the Fund, with a face amount equal to the amount guaranteed by ALUBAF.

"To limit risk, the funds hold high cash reserves and only commit a small portion of invested capital to any trading market."



Past performance is no guarantee of future results

This advertisement is not an offer for sale of Units in ALUBAF MINT GUARANTEED FUND LIMITED. Applications for Units in ALUBAF Mint Guaranteed Fund Limited will only be considered on the terms of the relevant prospectus.

Prospectuses will be available from

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UGB Tower, P.O. Box 11529, Diplomatic Area, Manama, State of Bahrain, Telephone No. 531212, Telex 9671 and Fax No. 523100.

ALUBAF and the Fund have entered into an agreement whereby the Bonds shall be under the custodianship of Bankers Trust Investment Management Limited, London, and shall only be released to meet the liability to investors under the Guarantee.

## POTENTIAL FOR CAPITAL APPRECIATION

ALUBAF Mint Guaranteed Fund Limited has the same trading consultant — Mint Investment Management Company — as the highly successful family of Mint Funds which are considered as one of the world's most successful series of public managed funds and have been ranked among the top performers for funds of this type over the past seven years. MIMC, or its principals, has achieved an AVERAGE COMPOUND RETURN OF 28.9% (after all fees and costs) since start-up in April 1981 to 31 December 1988. However, investors should bear in mind that past performance is no guarantee of future results.

If MIMC's performance over the past 7 years continues over the life of the Fund, \$1 million originally invested in ALUBAF Mint Guaranteed Fund Limited would be worth over \$6 million after 7 years.

There is a high probability that ALUBAF Mint Guaranteed Fund Limited will achieve AVERAGE ANNUAL COMPOUND RETURNS IN EXCESS OF 25%. This is because, unlike many investments, the trading strategy for the Fund is based entirely on mathematical rules and tested on over 20 years of price history for all major futures markets. Given this extensive historical data, standard statistical methods have been used to calculate the probability of future investment returns. The actual track record of MIMC (the Trading Consultant) has compared favourably with the projected returns of its research.

## ALUBAF ARAB INTERNATIONAL BANK E.C.

ALUBAF Arab International Bank E.C. was incorporated in 1982 as an exempt company in the State of Bahrain and operates as an Offshore Banking Unit licensed by the Bahrain Monetary Agency. ALUBAF is 60% owned by UBAC Curacao N.V. which groups together governments, central banks and other Arab banks representing every country in the Arab world. The further 40% of the Bank is owned by certain UBAC shareholders in their own right.



هكذا من لا يحل

VIDEO CORNER

# Popes on an empty run

By Shaun Seekins

**RUNNING On Empty** brings together a talented and dynamic cast in this contemporary family drama. Directed by Sidney Lumet, it stars Christine Lahti and Judd Hirsch as Annie and Arthur Pope. They were political activists in the late 60s and the early 70s and their agitation against the Vietnam war culminated in them blowing up a napalm laboratory in 1974.

Unfortunately for them, the night watchman was present and was mutilated by the explosion. Because they acknowledged being responsible the FBI has been looking for them since that date.

They lead a fairly quiet life these days, moving on regularly as soon as Arthur gets the feeling that they are being watched. However, the effect on the two sons of the marriage is becoming more and more serious as Danny (River Phoenix) gets closer to making a decision about college.

Danny is 17 years old and a first class music student, he impresses the music teacher at his new school with his talent and soon falls for the teacher's teenage daughter.

The reappearance of a fellow agitator after many years threatens to bring the whole house of cards down around them and Annie has to make very difficult decisions.

The film works on several dif-

ferent levels, the excitement of the chase, Danny's tender teenage romance, and the gradual realisation that the family is breaking up has one caring for the characters, definitely one to see.

**Fine**  
**Madame Sousatzka** stars Shirley Maclaine who returns to the screen after a long absence. She plays a piano teacher who demands nothing less than total commitment from her pupils. When a gifted Indian boy (Navin Chowdhry) becomes her student, she devotes all her energy to making him a true master, her dedication however draws ire from the boy's mother (Shabana Azmi) and landlord (Peggy Ashcroft) as well as the boy himself.

Fine performances all round, especially from Maclaine. Directed by John Schlesinger, it has been selected as the Royal Film of 1989 and was shown at the Odeon, Leicester Square on March 20.

**Tense**  
**Passion and Paradise** is a tense bestseller based on a true story and stars Armand Assante and Catherine Mary Stewart.

The bridesmaids are four close knit friends who share memories, secrets and reflections on men when they're reunited for the nuptials of another friend in their Minnesota hometown.

The **American Music Awards '89** are now available along with **Scorpions in Moscow**.



Annie Pope (Christine Lahti) and her boys on the run. Directed by Sidney Lumet this contemporary film drama brings together a talented and dynamic cast. (Below) Shirley Maclaine and Navin Chowdhry in *Madame Sousatzka*. The movie has been selected as the Royal Film of 1989.



## Painting competition winners

Winners of the 2nd Annual Children's Painting competition, (second left) Safa Shawish, Sami Barakat, Gautam Bajaj, Nicolas Neglen and Margaret Krawecka pictured here with Mrs Hinchcliffe, the wife of the British ambassador and Althea Howard, the Town Crier of London. The competition was organised by The Friends of Great Ormond Street Hospital in conjunction with the recent visit to Kuwait of Prince Charles and Princess Diana.



## MOVENPICK EASTER

Easter at Mouenpick will be very special this year. Delicious Easter menu has been prepared for Easter breakfast, lunch & dinner. Variety of Easter eggs and bunnies are available at the Patisserie.

## WHAT'S ON

### ARTS

**Sultan Gallery**  
AN exhibition of paintings by Bangladeshi artist Mounirul Islam is open at the gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanim Bldg., Al Soud St., daily except Friday from 9 am to 12 noon and 5 to 8 pm.

**Boushaphic Art**  
GRAPHIC art by Bulgarian artists is show at the gallery in Salmiya. It was opened by Bulgarian Ambassador Angel Mantchev. It is open to the public daily from 9 am to 12.30 noon and 4 to 8.30 pm, until March 28.

**Kuwait Science Museum**  
OPEN Saturday - Wednesday, 4.30 - 5.30 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

**Islamic Arts Museum**  
SAT. - Thurs. 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and - mariti equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

**Tareq Rajab Museum**  
SAT. - Thurs. 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

**Sadu House**  
SAT. - Thurs. 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts.

### CINEMA

**Iraqi Film Festival**  
AN Iraqi film festival is being held in Kuwait. It will continue till March 29. The following films will be shown:

March 22: Sitta ala Sitta (1988); director: Khairiya Massour; starring Yassem Mallak, Laila Ahmad.

March 25: Urs Iraqi (1988); director: Mohd. Shukri Jamil; starring Qassem Mallak, Fatima Rabae.

March 26: Hub fi Baghdad

(1986); director: Abdul Hadi Al Rawi; starring: Khalil Shawki, Susan Al Ali.

March 28: Shay Min Al Quwwah, starring Miqdad Abdul Rida, Khalil Shawki.

March 29: Al Beit, starring Athar Khidr, Awatif Ibrahim. All films will be shown at 7.30 pm at the auditorium of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Children not permitted inside the auditorium.

**Japanese Movie**  
MARCH 23 (4-6 pm): A Japanese cartoon feature entitled "Future War" will be shown in Al Thuraya Room, 16th floor, Meridian Hotel. Snacks and refreshments will be served.

**Mary Poppins**  
MARCH 22 (5.30 pm) and March 23 (10 am): Mary Poppins, starring Julie Andrews as the nanny with a passion for magical adventures, will be shown at the British Council. The animation, live action and award-winning songs brought this film five Academy Awards. Admission free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Children and adults welcome. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

### MUSIC

**Jukebox 5**  
UNTIL March 22 (7 pm): Auditions for singers and dancers for the Sounds Great production of Jukebox 5 at Sunshine School, Salwa. The show will be produced by Ken Winston with June Woolston and Phil Thomas as musical directors. Naeesh Hameed will choreograph the show. Dancers and singers must come prepared and bring dance gear and music with them. For details ring 5740256 or 5625316.

**Children's Dance Recital**  
MARCH 22 (6 pm): Steps School of Ballet will present a children's dance recital in the theatre of the Kuwait English School, Salwa. Tickets, KD2, are available at KES from 5 to 7 pm on weekdays. Tel: 5629356 ext 55 (pm only) or 5616228.

### Beat Concert

MARCH 31: Vishal Arts present a beat concert featuring Symphony and Perfect Strangers from 10 am at the Sharq Co-operative Hall. At 6 pm the group will present a variety show with Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi music and folk dances. For details call Anthony D'Souza or Arjun Gehi. Tel: 2631826 or 2663693.

### Open-Air Concert

MARCH 31: Steve Michael with the Zambesi will feature in the "Peace and Love" concert at the Salmiya Club stadium. The show starts at 5 pm. Tickets are now available from Swan Lake, Salmiya/Kuwait City; No.1 records, Sultan Center, Salmiya.

### THEATRE

**Malayalam Drama**  
APRIL 7: Gayathi Arts will present their first Malayalam drama "Karutha Paurami" at Indian Arts Circle. Written by Chandra Mohan and directed by Nandan Iringalakuda. For entry passes call 5643126.

**ACT**  
MARCH 27, 28, 29, 30 (8 pm): ACT presents Jean Giraudoux' comic fantasy "The Madwoman of Chailiot", directed by George Plautz, at Mousetrap Theatre, Jabriya. Reduced ticket price for opening night. For reservations call 5731782 (answermachine) or 5755391, 5-7 pm.

### EXHIBITION

**Silk Painting Exhibition**  
MARCH 22-23 (5-9 pm): Ladies from the German-speaking cultural association will hold a silk painting exhibition at Kuwait International Hotel, Old Failaka room. Exhibits include Arab scenes, are nouveau and other subjects as well as cushions, scarves, brooches and a small Easter bazaar. All are welcome.

**Photographs on show**  
PHOTOGRAPHS from the British embassy reception for the Prince and Princess of Wales are on show at the British Council, 2 Al Arabi Street,

Mansouriya. For details call 2515512.

### SOCIAL

**Flag hoisting**  
MARCH 23: On the occasion of Pakistan Day, the embassy of Pakistan will hold a flag-hoisting ceremony at 9 am at the chancery premises. All Pakistanis are welcome. The embassy will be closed on that day.

### Easter at the National Evangelical Church

MARCH 23: Maundy Thursday - 7 - 8.30 pm, services with Holy Communion.

MARCH 24: Good Friday 11.45 am - 3.00 pm Neck Worship in Mrs Scuddard's Garden (all languages). Easter Breakfast 6.00 am - following services - English language services 7 - 8.30 am. Easter evening services - English language services 5-6 pm and 6.30-7.30 pm.

For more information call 2431087.

**Easter at St. Pauls, Ahmadi**  
11.30 am, lunchtime Family Service.

12.30 pm, lunchtime Family Service.

6.30 pm, Easter Festival of Praise.

(Guest Choir - The Ahmadi Music Society)

**Flag hoisting**  
MARCH 26 (9.00 am): The Bangladesh embassy will hold a flag hoisting ceremony at the chancery premises in Jabriya on the occasion of the Independence and National Day. All Bangladeshis are invited to attend the ceremony.

**Community Festival**  
MARCH 31: 4.30 pm. Thapasya, an Indian group, will hold a community festival featuring folk dances at Maseela Family Beach.

Entrance: 500 fils (adults); 250 fils (children).

**KAPILKU**  
MARCH 31: A baking class, from 9.30 am to 12 noon and a cooking class (Asian dishes), from 1.30 to 4.30 pm will be held at the Pullman Hotel. Entrance free for all

KAPILKU members. Tel: Ojje Olor or Jojo on 5327023.

### Southerners get-together

MARCH 31: The Southerners will hold a get-together at Carlton Towers Hotel from 10 am to 4 pm. Next of Kin will provide musical entertainment. For details ring 2425705 or 4831484.

### HOTELS

**At the Meridian**  
A SPECIAL menu will be featured in the Versailles, Al Waha and La Brasserie Restaurants to celebrate the Mother's Day. The hotels will give roses and gifts to all mothers visiting the outlets. A special cake will also be featured in Al Waha.

**Kuwait International Hotel**  
FAILAKA offers Arabian buffet every Thursday from 7.30 pm. Live entertainment by Soft Trio.

La Patisserie is having Austrian Pastry Promotion upto 27th. Specially flown in Pastry Chef from Vienna, Michael Mooslechner prepares Salzburger Nut Cake, Linzer Chocolate Mousse Cake, Grater Vanilla Tart, Vienna Plum Yeast Noodles with Vanilla sauce and lots more.

**At the Ramada**  
AL BENDAR Coffee Shop offers continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.

Thursday's is BBQ Night at Le Mirage Night Club, with full buffet and entertainment by the Al Arzy Band.

The Friday Family Brunch introduces cartoon characters on the ship's discovery; train tour of the hotel's garden and waterfront.

The Marina Takeaway Counter features a selection of sandwiches and snacks, 4 pm to 11 pm.

**At the Holiday Inn**  
EVERY Wednesday is "Sea Drama on Ice" in Al Dana. Enjoy fresh fish and seafood specialties. Thursday night is Indian night featuring exotic Eastern cuisine; and listen to the music played by the Gharbian Trio.

Enjoy Arabian Night in Al Andalus Supperclub on Thursday night. Friday brunch - fun time for families; games, prizes. Also open to Jaycee Club members.

### SPORTS

**BA Speedbird Trophy**  
MARCH 24: The BA Speedbird Trophy cricket match between teams representing Britain and Pakistan will be held at the KOC New Ground, Ahmadi. Play will commence at 9.30 am. All are welcome.

**Volleyball Tournament**  
MARCH 31: The Kuwait Volleyball Association will hold a volleyball tournament for Indians in connection with the Nehru Centenary celebrations. For details call Prem - 4675622 ext 293 (7 am - 3 pm).

**Nehru Cup**  
MARCH 25: The inaugural Nehru Cup volleyball tournament will be held at the Maseela courts. For details of participation contact the organiser on Tel: 3928493, 8 am to 8 pm.

## Tunisian festival

IN co-operation with Kuwait Airways, Tunis Air, Abou Nawas Hotels, the Tunisian National Tourism Office and the Tunisian Embassy here, the Kuwait International Hotel will play host to a Tunisian extravaganza from March 26 upto March 29. The highlight of each evening will be the fashion show by the Frad Fashion House and performance by singers Lotfi Bouchnak and Sofia Sadok all famous in their own professions. A special fashion show will be held on the afternoon of March 27 for ladies only.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

### KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran  
9.15 Cartoon Serial  
10.00 Ashwaqi Bilal Hodoob: Arabic serial, starring: Hamdi Ghaith, Shwekar, Tahiya Karoka, Nasreen Baqaya Wajoo: Arabic serial, starring: Ibrahim Sallal, Haifa Adel, Ayesha Ibrahim, Khalifa Omar  
12.00 International Circus  
1.00 News Summary  
1.05 World News via Satellite/Closedown

### EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran  
4.15 World News via Satellite  
4.45 Cartoon serial  
5.15 Layla Min Al Layla: Thousand and One Nights  
5.45 Al Islam Wal Insaan: religious programme  
6.15 With Students

### KTV 2

7.00 News Summary  
7.30 Housing and Citizens  
8.00 Advancement of Science: prepared and presented by Sulaiman Al Awadhi  
8.30 Good Evening  
9.00 News in Arabic  
9.30 Loolu wa Asdaaf: Arabic serial  
10.45 Al Aghniyat Fi Al Tamaniyat: featuring Simone, Samir Habib and Habiba  
12.30 News Summary  
12.40 World News via Satellite/Holy Quran: Closedown

### Mutual of Omaha: "Polar Bears."

7.30 You and the Law  
8.00 News in English  
8.55 The Law and Harry McGraw: "Waiting Game"  
9.40 Hooperman: "Baby on Board" - Hooperman's girlfriend is pregnant. Will they keep the baby?  
10.10 Just for Laughs: comedy  
10.30 Feature film: "The Resting Place." Starring: Richard Bradford, M. Emmet Walsh  
12.35 News Summary: followed by Magazine D'Actualite Holy Quran: Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

## RADIO PROGRAMMES

### BBC World Services

0600 Newdesk  
30 Omnibus  
0100 News Summary followed by Outlook  
25 Financial News  
30 How It All Began  
45 Country Style  
0200 World News  
09 British Press Review  
15 Health Matters  
30 Citizens  
0300 World News  
09 News About Britain  
15 The World Today  
30 Discovery  
0400 Newdesk  
30 Business Matters  
45 Country Style  
0500 World News  
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary  
30 Financial News  
45 Words of Faith  
45 The World Today  
0600 Newdesk  
30 Meridian  
0700 World News  
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary  
30 Development '89  
0800 World News  
09 Words of Faith  
15 Business Matters  
30 Scrimplay  
0900 World News  
09 British Press Review  
15 The World Today  
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup  
45 How It All Began  
1000 News Summary followed by Omnibus  
30 Jazz for the Asking  
1100 World News  
09 News about Britain  
15 Country Style  
30 Meridian  
1200 Newdesk  
15 They Made Our World  
25 The Farming World  
45 Sports Roundup

1300 World News  
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary  
30 Development '89  
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News  
45 Business Matters  
1500 Newdesk  
15 The Learning World  
30 8th King St Junior; 15th and 22nd After Henry; 29th Two Cheers for March  
1600 World News  
09 News about Britain  
15 The Beeb's Lost Beatles Tapes  
45 The World Today  
1700 World News  
09 Commentary  
15 Society Today  
30 New Ideas  
40 Book Choice  
45 Sports Roundup  
1800 Newdesk  
30 Multitrack 2  
1900 News Summary followed by Outlook  
25 Financial News  
30 Network UK  
45 How It All Began  
2000 World News  
09 The World Today  
25 Words of Faith  
30 Assignment  
2100 News Summary followed by Sports Roundup  
15 The Beeb's Lost Beatles Tapes (ex 8th Sports world)  
45 Recording of the Week (ex 8th Sports world cont'd)  
2200 Newdesk  
2300 World News  
09 Sportsworld Extra (ex 8th and Omnibus)

0802 Songs and Music  
0830 News in English  
0840 Songs and Music  
0845 Daily Programme  
0900 Cultural Horizon  
0930 Reggae Rock  
1000 Our Press Today  
1005 Song and Music  
1030 The Years of Pop  
1100 Closedown  
EVENING  
2100 Opening  
2105 Kuwait  
2130 News  
2145 Point of View  
2155 Songs and Music  
2200 Kuwait in a Week  
2215 Rock On  
2245 Daily Programme  
2300 Strictly Romantic  
2330 Amazing Fact  
2400 Closedown

### Urdu

1900 Opening: Holy Quran  
1910 Behereen Qaul  
1920 Songs  
1935 Press Report  
1940 Subah-e-Nau  
2000 News in Urdu  
2020 Songs  
2040 Hidayate Rabbani  
2100 Closedown

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

### English

MORNING  
0600 Opening

## CINEMA TODAY

**Al Andalus**  
Al Duniya Al Jinah  
Yamama (Arabic)  
Starring: Mahmoud Abdul Aziz, Mervat Ameen

**Al Salmiya**  
Jamil Muhamad Ya Shaab (Arabic play)

**Al Hamra**  
Revolution  
Starring: Al Pacino, Nastassja Kinski

**Drive-In**  
Kul Hada Al Hub (Arabic)  
Starring: Noor Al Shareef, Laila Alwi  
Al Firdous  
Be-Laagam (Hindi)  
Starring: Randhir Kapoor, Rekha  
Fahabeh Open-Air  
Shoorveer (Hindi)

**Al Fahabeh**  
All of Me  
Al Jahra  
Abojmon (Bengali)  
Granada  
August 1 (Malayalam)  
Sulaibikhat  
Rambo III  
Al Jeeb  
Kaavin (Bengali)  
Ahmadi Drive-In  
Al Mo'alimah Samah (Arabic)

### PRAYERS

Fajr	4.29 am
Zuhr	11.55
Asr	3.23 pm
Maghreb	6.01
Isha	7.18

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Chocolate Easter Bunnies & Eggs...  
Grocery Gift Baskets

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Lunch & Dinner  
Specialties  
March 26th

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By Kathy Cuddihy

ONE of the nice things about being a Middle East expat is that most of us can enjoy that otherwise rare phenomenon called A Disposable Income.

Unfortunately, many people consider A Disposable Income to be exactly that: disposable...something to be thrown away after only one use. In other words, most of us spend our hard-earned gains rather foolishly until we get the hang of so-called financial freedom.

Eventually we supposedly make enough silly mistakes that our track record can only improve...assuming we're here long enough to learn from our recklessness.

So where does all that tax-free money go? (I sound like my husband asking that question!) After many years' experience disposing of Disposable Income, I have narrowed the field into three categories: Real Estate, Stocks and Bonds and Other.

People who already have a mortgage to clear have a distinct advantage over people taking an unpractised leap into realty. After all, at least they have bought something they need and can now channel their income into paying for it. Everyone else is vulnerable to hovering flocks of unscrupulous real estate vultures...and to their own whimsical fancies. I

## Income...outgo

mean, buying 20,000 acres of virgin woodland in Chile may seem like a great bargain and have the psychological advantage of putting you in the "big landowner" class...but how practical is it if the furthest south you'll probably ever get is New York City?

Owning a luxury villa in Spain might sound a little more practical — and closer to home — but this doesn't count for a lot if you ever see for your hefty 25 per cent deposit is an "artist's impression" of the property.

Of course, not all real estate purchases are duds. Some are potentially pretty good, but negative factors turn them sour. Circumstances like uncouth tenants who trash your property, or management companies that do little more than cash the cheques for the substantial management fees they charge.

All these aspects persuade some people to stick with investments which are less hassle. Not safer or more profitable, you understand, just less hassle. This leads us to the next category: Stocks and Bonds.

In theory, you hand over a generous portion of your Disposable Income to a reliable broker and he channels the funds into wise

investments. All you have to do is sit back and wait for the dividends to pour in. It's a great theory and it would probably work quite well under the following circumstances: 1) if the investor has enough money to warrant personal portfolio management, and 2) if the broker is reputable enough to look after your best interests almost as vigilantly as he looks after his own. Otherwise, unless you're a stock analyst or incredibly lucky, there's an excellent chance that before you know it (especially if you don't bother to follow the markets), your wise paper investments won't be worth the printer paper on which they're recorded.

The fatal attraction for investors is always The Sure Thing. You know, that investment which is "guaranteed" to give a quick and lucrative return on your money. Of course, you have to act immediately, or you miss the unique chance to make a fortune. And not too long after you've committed yourself (and your cash!), another opportunity presents itself: by investing more capital you can double your money on the deal. Gut instincts dig you deeper and deeper into folly, until the only Sure Thing is your excessive deficit. I know

someone (who shall go unnamed for the sake of marital accord) who fell for this couple of times until his wife (guess who?) told him to keep his gut instincts where they belong: in his gut.

Last, but definitely not least, comes that obscure category called Other. Into this black hole go all those expenditures we can't, don't want to, or are ashamed to remember/record/reveal. This category contains such intangible items as "loans" to relatives, nights on the town (at your expense) with friends, and exotic travel. It also includes those impulsive splurges which you have previously been unable to justify/afford/persuade your spouse to buy for you.

Of all bad investments, these Others are obviously the worst because more often than not you have nothing to show for all that financial activity. At least, that's the way some people would view it.

My own considered opinion is that the ideal is to plan for the future and make astute investments. If, however, this is beyond your ability...or your inclination...and unwise spending is inevitable, then what the heck, enjoy.

You may not have anything palpable to show for the Other category, but some of the memories will be hard to beat. You sure can't say that for bad real estate buys or market speculation...

Find your artistic temperament rating

## Are you a poet or a pain?



Are you the artistic type or can't you tell a Picasso from a Rembrandt? Is a good evening for you, eating chips while watching TV — or feverishly writing your first novel? Your artistic temperament rating is revealed in our wacky quiz.

By Kate Saunders

- Why do you think famous painter Vincent Van Gogh cut off his ear?
  - Because he was a masochist.
  - Because of his artistic torment.
  - Because no-one understood him.
  - For a perfect day out, would you prefer:
    - Gazing for hours at paintings in an art gallery?
    - A meal with friends and a trip to the cinema?
    - Watching TV?
  - Would you prefer to travel:
    - The quickest and easiest way, to wherever you're going?
    - On horseback wearing a flowing red cape?
    - On the Orient Express?
  - Which historical character do you most admire?
    - Black rights campaigner Martin Luther King.
    - King Henry the Eighth.
    - Artist Van Gogh.

- Which fictional character do you feel most sympathy for?
  - Heathcliff from Emily Brontë's Wuthering Heights.
  - Beatrix Potter's Peter Rabbit.
  - Shakespeare's Juliet.
- A friend asks you to go to a spiritualist meeting. Do you:
  - Go, wearing a black gown and smelling of incense?
  - Laugh and refuse?
  - Go, but stay sceptical?
- Over a meal in a smart restaurant, your partner breaks the news that they have become involved with someone else. Do you:
  - Throw a glass of water over them and storm out?
  - Burst into tears?
  - Sit staring into space for a while and then start talking about the weather?
- Which quality is most important to you in a friend?
  - Vivid imagination.
  - Loyalty.
  - How much money they have.
- One of your friends starts writing a novel, and says they need to be left alone for at least a month. What is your reaction?
  - Sympathetic at first, but impatient after a week.
  - You start writing a novel too — but need to see them after a few days for their opinion.
  - You tell everyone what a pointless waste of time it is.
- Which of these jobs do you think is most worthwhile?
  - Sculptor or novelist.
  - Counsellor or charity worker.
  - Tax inspector.
- Which type of film would you rather watch?
  - A slow-moving, intense love story set in beautiful countryside.
  - A horror film.
  - A well written comedy or exciting historical tale.
- Which of these poems would be most inspired to write?
  - A rude verse for a friend's birthday.
  - A tangled, tormented epic of love and death.

What is your reaction?

- For a lively night out, would you choose to go to:
  - A play full of fashionable intellectuals?
  - A smoky basement party club?
  - A disco?
- While on holiday in Spain you become separated from your friend and lost in a remote mountain village. Are you most likely to:
  - Grumble, and irritably ask the locals in slow, loud English for help?
  - Enjoy yourself floating around coffee bars and gazing into the eyes of Don Juans until your friend comes to find you?
  - Ask people if they've seen your friend, and then wait at the village's main bus or train station?

## What your score means

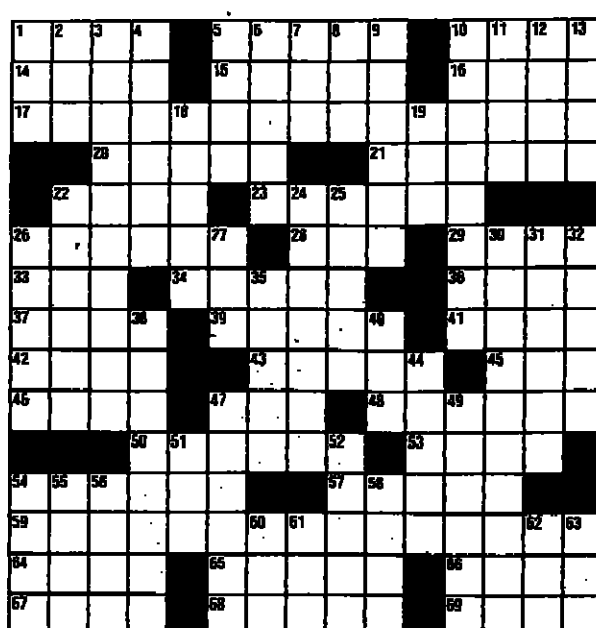
Mostly a's: You're about as artistic as a lavatory brush. If someone mentions Picasso you think they're talking about an Italian sports car. If you're dragged around an art gallery you have to stifle yawns of boredom. You're down to earth and practical, but your life is probably not very colourful either. Experience the swings and

roundabouts of moods and read some passionate novels — life could prove much more interesting.

Mostly b's: You've got such an artistic temperament you're in danger of losing your grip on reality. You live life in a swoon of art galleries and feverish writing of poetry by candlelight. But try to curb those wayward passions of yours sometimes. After all,

you don't want to end up cutting off any ears of your own! Mostly c's: You're imaginative and inclined to the occasional tantrum — but they're more of an indication that you are seeking attention than being artistic. You quite enjoy some artistic activity — sketching the cat or writing the occasional poem for instance — but you suspect that you're not a brilliant, mad artist, and you're probably right!

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- Ink spot
- Enjoyers warmth
- Younger — springtime...
- Path
- CPA's examination
- Unique
- City in California
- Brag
- Played TV's
- Marshall Dillon
- Silo site
- Wheel features
- Tanant
- They loop the Loop
- Vipers
- Ending with Japan or Siam
- Rise
- Cut short
- Turner of song
- Destroy
- Day of music
- Church bench
- Court dividers
- Flower plot
- Villain
- Sartre novel
- Comest for two
- Draw tight
- Make small
- Prime time TV show
- Intertwine

### DOWN

- Sandwich order, for short
- Statute
- Single
- Choir members
- Brown horses
- Mother's sisters
- Star Wars: Abbr.
- Relations
- T-bone and porterhouse
- Carry on business
- Healthy
- Limbs
- Monster's loch
- Domesticates
- Before dawn or game
- Lawn grass
- Electron tube
- More mature
- Gain skill
- Summer, along
- The Saline
- Shake my hand!
- Shaped like an evergreen cone
- Produce
- South American range

### 38 Traps

- Parody
- Egyptian statesman
- Lumberjack of folklore
- "Bull —"
- River islet
- Madison Ave. exec
- WWII battle site
- Melt
- Pilaf ingredient
- "The Way We
- Broadway hit letters
- Goose eggs
- Persons — grata
- Wildbeest

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ.

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ AQ973 ♠ AQ85 ♠ AQ65 ♠ Void  
Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?  
A.—Don't jump shift unless you have a solid suit of your own or a fit for partner. With this hand you don't know where you want to play the contract, and you might need room for exploration. Respond one spade.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ AQ973 ♠ AQ85 ♠ AQ65 ♠ Void  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
1 NT Pass ?  
What do you bid now?  
A.—It's time to show your strength and check on the possibility of a 4-4 heart fit—partner could easily have a heart suit on this auction. Jump to three hearts. Don't even consider three no trump yet.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ AQ973 ♠ AQ85 ♠ AQ65 ♠ Void  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?  
A.—Since partner has limited his

strength, but not his shape, there's no need for you to jump—a simple change of suit is forcing. Therefore, bid two diamonds. That will ensure that a fit is found, if there is one. With diamonds, partner will raise; he will bid a four-card heart suit, if he has one; and he will take a spade preference with three-card support.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ AJ93 ♥ 85 ♦ AQJ63 ♣ 7  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?  
A.—No sense in pussyfooting around. You have a partial misfit, but your diamond suit is a source of tricks and you do have the values to bid game. So go ahead and jump to three no trump.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ 954 ♠ AJ74 ♦ AQ1076 ♣ 8  
Partner opens the bidding with one no trump. What do you respond?  
A.—If partner has the right hand, you could make a slam. First, probe for a 4-4 major fit by employing the Stayman Convention. Bid two clubs. That asks partner to bid a four-card major if he has one; if not, his denial is two diamonds.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ 954 ♠ AJ74 ♦ AQ1076 ♣ 8  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?  
A.—Although partner has denied holding a four-card major suit, your chances for slam are not yet dead. A diamond fit could produce a slam in the minor. Test the waters by bidding three diamonds. That is natural, forcing and shows at least a five-card suit. Partner's next bid will tell you where you're headed.

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

HIATUS ASSIST  
BANDANNA RATTLE  
ARTESIAN MISSES  
ARE STRAFED NET  
LIRE SETIN HOVE  
ISENT BIGOTTED  
COSTA HOBART  
ENTER AWE ALOFT  
NOSTER MINIAE  
SMATTER ANEST  
TARE GDEFG EAT  
ENE GROWERS LED  
POTTLE EVERYONE  
PRESSET RETAINER  
ESSINE RAISPED

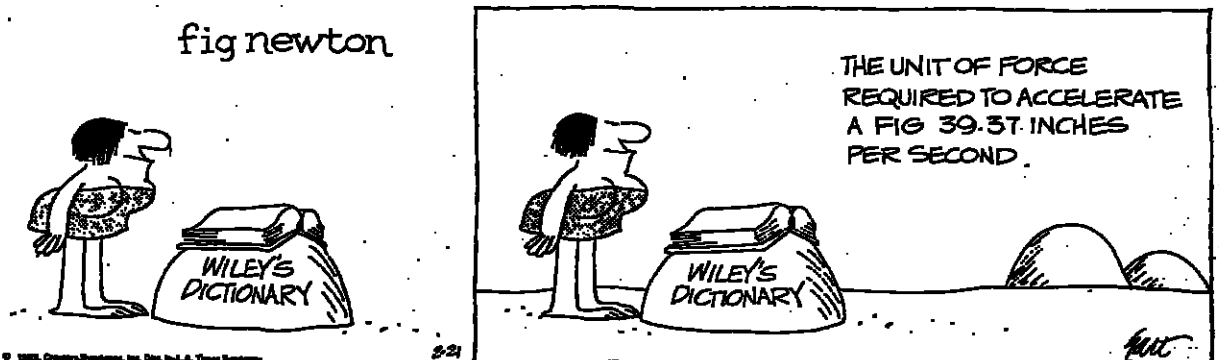
## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You should take the best possible care of your health. You should try to avoid repeating yourself. You should examine all the alternatives before making up your mind. Be objective.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Something you have been meaning to do for a long time should be done without much further delay. You should avoid taking any unnecessary risks and you should not do more than one thing at a time.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Something that has been causing you difficulties will now become easier. However, that does not mean that you will be able to relax your efforts. You should try to avoid thinking negative thoughts. Be reliable.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will be able to make more rapid progress but only if you do not permit yourself to be distracted. Make sure you get sufficient rest, not too many late nights. Avoid acting on the spur of the moment. Be generous.



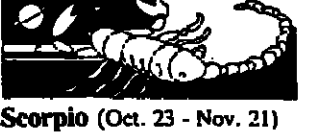
Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Try to ensure that you are not boring others. You should do your best to overcome a fault of yours: if you try hard you will succeed. You should not allow work to invade your private life. Be more supple.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will be able to have a frank talk. Make sure you do not allow things to become untidy. You will have a good idea but the time is not ripe for it. Be magnanimous.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will be able to make more rapid progress than of late. But only if you really concentrate. Do not become angry with yourself instead just try harder. You should not just hope for the best or act on impulse. Be punctual.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You will be able to do something that you have long wanted to do. The Moon's better influence will help you to relieve a certain amount of tension. You should leave yourself with sufficient room for manoeuvre. Your lucky numbers are 4 and 5. Be positive.



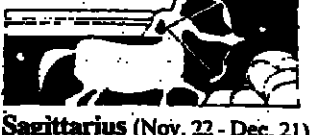
Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

The Moon's better influence will help you to avoid falling into a trap. You should make sure you do not get on other people's nerves. You will be better able to control your emotions. Be careful.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

The Moon's better influence will help you to deal with a personal matter. You should have more confidence in yourself and faith in others. If you do not ask for too much you will not be disappointed. Be forgiving.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You will not be quite sure what to do and you must avoid doing anything rash. You should make sure you do not deliberately do anything that could well be injurious to your health. Your emotional life will take a turn for the better. Be fair.

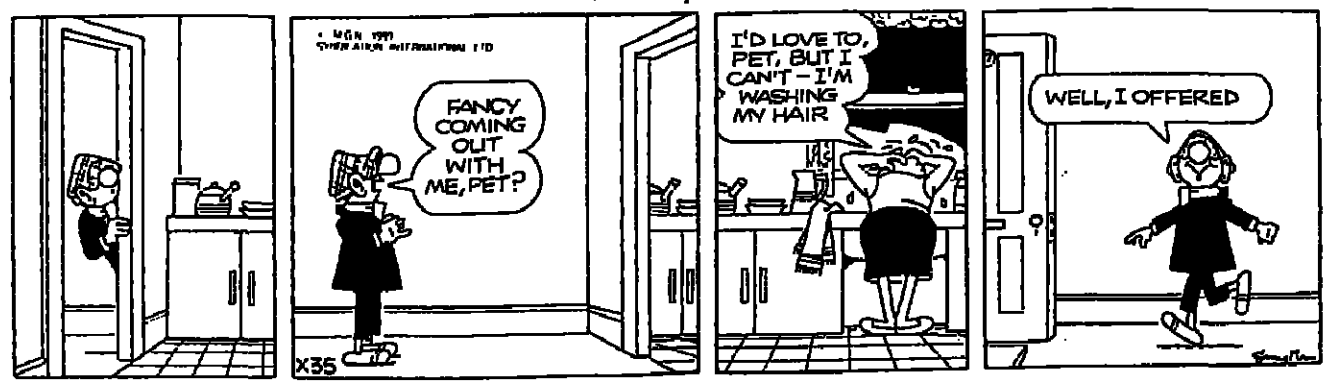


Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You should not make changes just for the sake of something new and different. You will tend to place too much reliance on gadgetry. You should not be quite so critical of others. Be reasonable.

## ANDY CAPP

By Smith



مكتبة



مكتبة

CINEMA

## Short Takes

### Newman cast

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Paul Newman, winner of the 1986 Academy award for best actor, and newcomer Lolita Davidovich will star in a new Disney comedy titled *Blaze* for the studio's Touchstone Pictures.

The screenplay was written by Ron Shelton who also will direct the film. Shelton recently earned an Academy award nomination for his screenplay of *Ball Durham*.

Set in Louisiana circa 1959, *Blaze* stars Newman as Governor Earl Long, a flamboyant politician whose public affair with a stripper named *Blaze* became a public scandal.

### Diamond's tour, part 3

NEW YORK: Superstar Neil Diamond begins the third leg of his 1988-89 concert tour in April, including stops in five cities on the West Coast, it was announced.

The tour kicks off with an April 4 concert in Vancouver, British Columbia, with stops in Seattle, San Francisco, San Diego and Tempe, Arizona.

Diamond recently completed the second leg of his tour, selling out 29 concerts in 12 cities. The veteran singer-songwriter also recently released his first studio album of new material, *The Best Years of Our Lives*.

The current concert tour features a new song repertoire in addition to earlier material from his more than two dozen gold and platinum albums.

**Welch project**  
HOLLYWOOD: Raquel Welch and Australia's Jack Thompson will star in *Trouble in Paradise*, a CBS-TV two-hour movie about passion and deceit set on a tropical isle.

Welch portrays a beautiful widow whose husband, a US diplomat, is assassinated. En route to America with her husband's body, she is washed overboard and awakens on an island in the company of the ship's second mate, a crude, lustful Australian.

Complications arise when drug smugglers appear at the wreck of the ship determined to unload masses of heroin secreted in the coffin of the diplomat.

**Peck tribute**  
HOLLYWOOD: Gregory Peck has received the 17th annual American Film Institute Award during taped ceremonies that will be broadcast by NBC-TV.

Jane Fonda, Audrey Hepburn, Luan Platter and Jennifer Jones, all of whom have worked with Peck over the years, were among many celebrities paying homage to the Academy award-winning star.

Peck was to be honored for his contributions to motion pictures, going back to the 1940s. He received his first Oscar nomination for his performance in *The Keys to the Kingdom*, only his second film. He was also nominated for *The Yearling*, *Gentleman's Agreement* and *Twelve O'Clock High*. He won the Oscar for *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

**Dove's follow-up**  
HOLLYWOOD: In the wake of critical and ratings successes for the mini-series *Lonesome Dove*, Quintex Entertainment is following up with five two-hour TV movies.

The package includes *The Price of the Prize*, the story of the Roxanne Pulitzer scandal, starring Perry King and Chyma Phillips; *The Margaret Bourke-White Story*, starring Farrah Fawcett as the famous photographer; *Face to Face*, a romantic comedy starring Elizabeth Montgomery and Robert Foxworth set in Kenya.

The other two projects are *Bridesmaids*, a high school reunion story starring Shelley Hack, Brooke Adams, Sela Ward and Stephanie Faracy.

Dyan Cannon to write, direct full-length feature film

# Finding harmony in movie-making

By Matthew Heller

LOS ANGELES, (Reuters): Dyan Cannon has ridden an emotional rollercoaster unusual even by Hollywood standards.

The actress-filmmaker survived a stormy marriage to Cary Grant and experimented with everything from primal scream therapy to voluntary celibacy in her search for spiritual harmony.

Along the way Cannon was nominated for Academy awards for her performances in *Bob and Carol and Ted and Alice* and *Heaven Can Wait* as well as for directing the short film *Number One*.

But at the age of 51, she says, she has finally achieved enough 'inner peace' to take on the challenge of starring in, directing and writing the full-length feature *One Point of View*.

"I guess now in my life," she said in an interview, "I was ready to accept the responsibility of maintaining that kind of atmosphere that would enable everyone to work and still have a good time... and not have it all crumble around me."

"I've been working on getting myself together so I could do it and have a good time doing it. That's what I accomplished."

Cannon is putting in long hours editing the film in a small Los Angeles studio decorated with what she says are the essential components of her life: pictures of her family, a Los Angeles Lakers basketball schedule and an exercise machine.

The low-budget movie, scheduled for release this autumn, tells the story of a woman played by Cannon who tries to rebuild her fragile ego in a rehabilitation centre.

"I'm learning so much and I must say it gives me tremendous compassion for every producer I've ever worked for," said Cannon, still looking glamorous in sweatshirt and black leotard.

She said she was offered eight or nine features to direct since *Number One* but "I turned them down because it was never the right time. They never wanted to give me the time... to facilitate what I felt needed to be done with scripts."

But Cannon, who is now married to a Los Angeles property executive and has a daughter by Grant — the Hollywood star who died in 1986 — also admitted she may not have been emotionally prepared to take on such a challenge.

**Extremist**  
"I think emotionally I've always been an extremist and I've been working on balancing out my act, so to speak, for a long time... I wouldn't have been ready to have accepted the responsibility and done it just on my own."

"To me it's not just directing a film or writing a film or acting in a film. That's really not what it's about. It's how you do those things. It's the harmony that's maintained while you're working with all these people."

She added: "There were days when I'd get a little nuts but not for long, not long enough to disrupt the harmony."

Cannon said the idea for *One Point of View* had been percolating in



**The actress-filmmaker who survived a stormy marriage to Cary Grant and experimented with everything from primal scream therapy to voluntary celibacy in her search for spiritual harmony now turns to filmmaking.**

her mind for some time. But it took two months in Florida filming *Caddyshack II*, in which she had a cameo role, to get her to put it down on paper.

"I went away on location, stayed at this spa, got massaged, wrote this movie and got paid a tremendous chunk of change to write it," she said, dissolving into laughter.

The struggle of the main character, whose self-esteem hinges on other people's opinion of her, mirrors much of Cannon's own experience.

"I've spent so much of my life trying to be loved by everybody. It doesn't work," she said. "You can't please everybody in the world, so get on with doing your own higher sense of right, hoping you won't tread on anyone else's beliefs and get on with your life."

"That's what I'm doing now and it feels like I've had 500 billion pounds lifted off my back. And life has never been better."

Directing takes its toll on tough-guy movie star

## Hoskins' pet hate: actors

By Marina Shamoon

WITH his granite-like features, reputation for mingling with gangsters and voice like a bark, actor Bob Hoskins gives the impression that he can handle anything.

His portly five foot six inch frame has after all catapulted him to the very top of the acting league.

But, it seems there is one thing the tough-guy just can't take — directing.

He has just completed his first movie *Raggedy Rawney*, from the director's chair, and is anxious not to repeat the experience.

For he quickly learned to loathe his own kind when viewed from the other side of the camera.

"It was like being pecked to death by a thousand pigeons," he moans. "Before you can get to your bacon sandwich in the morning someone is asking you what you want done. They never stop asking you questions. Even when you are on the loo, they're knocking on the door."

Hoskins, 46, hit upon the idea for the film two years ago while filming *The Diner Boys* in Australia. The producer Bob Weis encouraged him to write the script and direct it.

Hoskins recalls: "I heard the story of the Rawney when I was down in Australia. The legend is that a young boy deserted and survived by disguising himself as this mad mystic woman."

As well as directing *Raggedy Rawney* Bob also stars as Dinky, the strong and pragmatic leader of a caravan of gypsies who escape the persecution of the Nazis during the Second World War.

"What I am saying is that war is the enemy. Not a particular country, not people, but war itself," he explains.

"And people are basically incredibly heroic. This is a band of very ordinary, sometimes not very nice people, but they stick together in the struggle to keep their children alive and to survive themselves, and they overcome every possible danger and difficulty."

*Raggedy Rawney* is set in an Eastern European country at the beginning of the century. The script calls for a rugged terrain and Czechoslovakia fitted the bill perfectly. Its mountains, plains, marshes and medieval towns helped to create just the right atmosphere.

The actors and camera crew were all hand-picked by Hoskins



and he had worked with many of them before on films such as *Mona Lisa*, *The Long Good Friday* and *A Prayer For The Dying*.

**Debut**  
Bob made his acting debut in 1968 at the age of 26... and it happened by complete accident. While waiting at the bar for a friend who was auditioning for a part at the Unity Theatre, Islington, he was dragged in to an audition by mistake and was too drunk to complain. He came out an actor and he hasn't looked back. Now he is one of the top international stars.

He says: "I suppose that coming into the acting game late has helped me to keep my feet on the ground. I've always painted, sculpted, written and been quite artistic, but it's all so lonely. But as soon as I walk on the stage there are all these people to play with, and it's great! It's the most social way of earning a living."

"People say I've been lucky. But I think the luck comes from the people you work with. Acting is like chess, you only get better by playing with people better than you. I've worked with some cream. I just love the work. I treat it as going from one adventure to the next."

But while Bob now seems to have the world at his feet, he has suffered his fair share of heartache.

His first marriage to Jane, a drama teacher ended in a bitter divorce and he was temporarily separated from his children Alex, 19, and Sarah, 15. As a result, he suffered a nervous breakdown but eventually found the strength to pull through.

He recalls: "I survived it. I came through, I'm here. People who've come through that kind of trauma always have this incredible lust for life. Life is so precious to them, they look after it. They notice, flowers, they breathe the air..."

Hoskins met his second wife in a pub called the Load Of Hay in Hamstead in 1981 on the wedding day of Charles and Princess Diana. Bob was immediately drawn to her.

He says: "I just went up to her and said: 'Hello sweetheart. Opportunity knocks... this is your lucky day!' They were married a year later... and Bob hasn't regretted a moment."

He adds: "Since I met Linda I've started to look after myself. I used to go into the most awful black depressions. I was like a man in a cardboard box who

couldn't get out. I haven't had one of those depressions since I met her."

"My acting was the only thing that was keeping me together. I've always felt at home while I've been acting. Whether what was happening to me then was affecting my work I don't know. Probably it was, because as soon as I met Linda my career went straight up — international stardom, the lot!"

Bob has had two children by Linda — Rosa, four, and Jack, three. Now one of his biggest problems is finding the time to be with them.

"I shall have to knock the work on the head for a bit because I have been away a lot and kids started to call me uncle," he quips.

Bob was born in St Albans in Hertfordshire and raised in London. His father was a book-keeper and his mother was a school dinner lady. After school he took on a succession of jobs including a trainee accountant, a labourer and a filing clerk before he flunked his way into acting.

"My mum and dad are as proud as punch. I've come a long way from my young tearway days," he says. "I was a sort of lunatic then. But I was never a violent person. Believe it or not, I've always been a passive pussy."

I don't respect people who go around bashing each other up. "I've played plenty of vicious, menacing people, but I'm not at all like that. Even though I had a rough street background and knew and drank with gangsters, I never got mixed up in any crime."

It is his image of the gangster that has given Hoskins some of his most powerful roles. In *The Long Good Friday*, he was a cockney gangster and in *Mona Lisa*, he played a petty crook. He won the best actor award in Cannes in 1986 for *Mona Lisa* and was nominated for an Oscar in the same year.

He says of *Mona Lisa*: "It's quite simply the best thing I have ever done. I'm really proud of it. It was such hard work, but you never notice that if you are enjoying what you're doing."

Since the success of *Mona Lisa*, Hollywood has been trying to seduce him with offers of million dollar deals but so far Bob hasn't taken the bait.

He says: "I'd be rich for the rest of my life but I know my family would be very unhappy there, so what's the point. I love Britain."

He adds: "I just went up to her and said: 'Hello sweetheart. Opportunity knocks... this is your lucky day!' They were married a year later... and Bob hasn't regretted a moment."

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## Hepburn looks for mature role

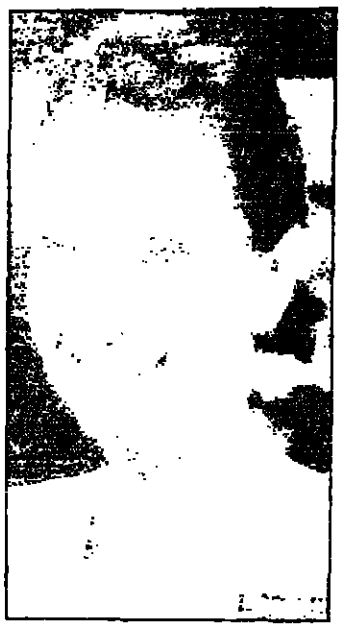
NEW YORK, (AP): Audrey Hepburn, who says she has rejected hundreds of scripts since making *'They All Laughed'* eight years ago, is looking for a mature film role.

"It would be fun to do another part before I roll over (die)," she told *Parade* magazine.

"People are inclined to send scripts to me for which the parts are too young," said Hepburn 59. "I'd love to do a picture with Michael Caine or Michael Douglas — actors who have style but aren't pompous about it."

She said she still remembers how her introverted personality made performing difficult. "Oh, I liked it beforehand — all the preparation — and I liked it afterward, if it went well. But the thing itself is scary."

"I remember, many years ago,

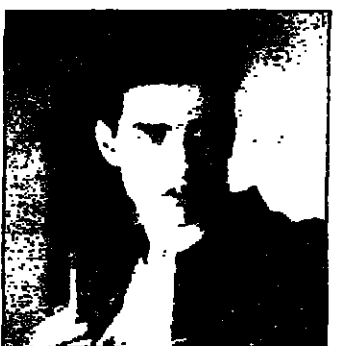


my mother said to me, 'considering you have no talent, it's really extraordinary where you've got, and that's what I really believe to this day,' she said. 'I've always been self-conscious about interviews, about my thinness, my tallness, my unattractiveness. My success — it still bewilders me.'

## Tom Cruise ill

PARIS, (AP): Tom Cruise cancelled meetings with the French press to promote his new movie, *Rain Man*, after falling ill and deciding to fly home for care.

Cruise, who plays opposite Dustin Hoffman in the film, came down with a bad cold last week, an unidentified spokesman for the actor told the French news agency Agence France-Presse. After two days at the American hospital in suburban Neuilly, Cruise flew home.



Tom Cruise



Glenn Close, fatally attractive at 41

## Close encounter with a femme fatale

By Anton Antonowicz

CLOSE UP the lady is 100 per cent fatally attractive. Tinkling laughter, ready smiles, soft voice, perfect short, blonde, gently highlighted hair. And a pair of blue-grey eyes through which only babies should watch the world.

Glenn Close, 41, the best bitch in Hollywood, the worst one-night stand a man could have, and a woman totally in control.

She is not tall — just 5ft 4 in. Nor big — about 8st. But the warning bells ring like claxons — Don't Mess With This Woman.

Her reputation, of course, precedes her. As the knife-wielding, rabbit-killing gorgeous psycho of *Fatal Attraction*, she scared the pants back on cheating husbands world-wide.

And now she's back to twist the knife into the male sex in *Dangerous Liaisons*.

The film, set in 18th century France, is dominated by viperish, vixenish Close, playing a courtly widow intent on revenge — for herself and her sex.

It has earned Close her fifth Oscar nomination and a hardening reputation for being to men what butchers are to bullocks.

The head is thrown back. The laughter skips around the room. "You didn't have to feel nervous about me," she says.

"But, yes, I hear this reputation. The driver I was given over here said he was too nervous to drive... but really, if anyone is wary, it's usually me."

"I'm the one who's shy and more nervous about the impression I am going to make."

"Yes," she continues, "it's coincidence that *Dangerous Liaisons* follows *Fatal Attraction*, but there's no way I'd turn it down."

"My characters, Alex in *Fatal* and the Marquise in *Dangerous*, are both destructive and self-destructive."

"But they come at it from opposite places. Alex is totally out of control. The Marquise completely in control. But they are both scarlet women." She laughs, pauses. "Okay, I'm basically a very sexy person."

She had to fight to land the part in *Fatal*. She was courted for *Dangerous*. Last month America made her *Entertainer of The Year*. That adds to her Tony Award and her *Obie* (Off Broadway) gong. And there are those five Oscar nominations — with the Big Day dawning in.

"It's very gratifying," she says, just this side of laughter. "Sometimes they think, if you've been nominated a certain amount of times, that they owe it to you. So there are rumours."

The eyes keep smiling, but the mouth sets as firm as her Family Tree.

Her forebears surfed to America on the back of the Mayflower. Her father was educated at Harrow, our public school, and Harvard, their university.

He is a well-known surgeon, who turned his back on Park Avenue patients to work instead in the devastated Congo.

Glenn, one of four kids, was sent to finishing school in Switzerland. "I was a quiet book-worm until that place got me. I went wild," she says. "They put barbed wire on the drainpipes."

Not that Close ever went AWOL. She waited to do her thing back in America where, at 17, she hit the road as a singer with a band.

Films came after ten years in the theatre. And international fame. She had been 50 minutes late for our chat, but this was partly because she had to meet her hairdresser and make-up artist who'd flown over specially from Paris.

That's the kind of cloud Close has. Not a swanky, puffed-up star. Just a genuine, matter-of-fact one.

But Close has been accused of being close to the Miss Nasties she plays.

Take *Fatal Attraction* in which she gets pregnant in a one-night stand and plagues her instant lover and his family to the point of death.

### Finished

When she finished the film, she finished her second marriage — to a Wall Street tycoon — got pregnant by an ex-boyfriend who finished his longstanding affair with a live-in lover and... she raises an unmarried hand.

"I know," she says. "They said I was mirroring the character. I didn't laugh at the coincidence. It was an insult. The connotations were untrue and nasty."

And anyway, she says, she doesn't have a self-destructive urge like Alex. "Look, having a child is one of the most positive things one can do."

She talks about Annie, the 10-month-old babe upstairs in her suite with John Starke, the father. She does not mention John. They are happy not being married.

"Annie's doing extremely well," she says. "She was seven weeks old when we went to France to film *Dangerous*, so she was socialised on a movie set."

Corsets and wire gave her a 24-inch waist eight weeks after Annie's birth. Close had welts on her back from the stays. She hurt a lot too in *Fatal* — bruises, exhaustion and emotional fall-out.

"*Dangerous Liaisons* was more 'corset exhaustion'."

I ask why she cut her hair short. She says she likes 'a low maintenance'.

She wears a wig in *Dangerous* and manages to cry one tear from just one eye. She makes the ending magnificent. She calls it "a brilliant fireworks — just before it dies."

"It's also a kind of 'I — you' gesture," she laughs, the swear word dropping slowly from her lips.

It is Mother's Day. She smiles wide, eyes glistening — then she heads off.

It has been a Close encounter with a femme fatale. But too brief by half...



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

## ACCOMMODATION

### For Rent

MISHRAF, villa consisting of 3 bedrooms, 1 sitting room, 1 dining room, 1 hall, kitchen, 3 bathrooms, a big garden and garage. Rent KD550 monthly. Tel. 4811283, 4811224, 4-11 pm.

OMARIYA House with 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen and telephone. Tel. 4733110, 4714305.

### Available

HAWALLI, opp. the Shaab Garden, accommodation with tele. facilities, for a lady, to share with a Goan family. Close to bus routes 14, 18, 37, 102. Tel. 2621275.

SALWA, House No. 101, Block 2, St. 2. One separate room with water, electricity and tele. facilities, for working ladies or bachelor. Rent KD45. Tel. 5650890.

BENEID Al Qar, behind the Kuwait International Hotel. One room for a bachelor or a working girl to share with an Indian RC family. Tel. 2424353.

SALWA, House 196, Block-7, Area-4. One big room with kitchen facilities, for a family, working girls or bachelors, to share with an Indian family. Bus routes 34, 102. Rent KD 50. Tel. 5611243.

KUWAIT City, Sharq, near the Firdous Cinema. Sharing accommodation in a flat with tele. facilities for Dawoudi Bohra community only. Tel. 2402974, res.

NUGRA, Moosa Bin Nasir St. near Farabi School, one room in a flat. Preferably for a small family or working girls. Bus routes 18, 12, 30 pm, 4-9 pm.

## FOR SALE

### Furniture

LOCAL-MADE, 8-seater wooden sofa, 3 pieces, and a new sofa set (1 big and 2 small) for sale. Tel. 4314378.

### Miscellaneous

CURTAINS, carpet, Philips tumble dryer, lots of plants and gardening materials, etc. for immediate sale. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tel. 5389072, 4-6 pm.

SALMIYA, close to Indian School, 2 bedroom flat with large hall, central AC, carpets and showcase, for sale. Tel. Mr. Ali, 5638339, mornings: 4818135, evenings.

7-SEATER sofa set, cupboard with 5 doors, dressing table, dining table, baby cot, curtains, Hitachi washing machine, Singer sewing machine and JVC TV 20". Tel. Mr. Ismail, 4333463, res.

HOUSEHOLD items, bedroom set, sofa set, dining table, curtains, fridge, gas cooker and AC unit for sale. Tel. Mr. Ashraf, 5639618.

ATARI computer 65XE, indoor plants and fish tank with filter, air pump and fish plus cabinet for sale. Tel. 5620890 after 8 pm.

## Cars

NISSAN Liberta, 1985, golden, 45,000 kms, automatic, insured up to Nov '89, with AC and sunroof. KD1200 or by instalments. Tel: 5653952.

CADILLAC Fleetwood, 1982 model, light beige colour used by one owner, interior and exterior in excellent condition, guarantee for engine. Tel. 2407204-3.

NISSAN Patrol Safari '83 model, with new tyres in good condition. Owner leaving Kuwait. KD1350. Tel. 4741367.

TOYOTA Corona, 1982 (late model), automatic, registered up to Feb 1990, with new tyres, AC, quartz watch and extra fan. In very good condition. KD935. Tel. 2461135, ext. 267.

NISSAN Stanza, '83 model, in good condition. Owner leaving Kuwait. KD550. Tel. 4741367.

NISSAN Liberta, 1983, fully automatic, beige colour, with new tyres, registered up to Feb 1990, in good condition. KD725 cash. Tel. 3985008 off. 3718421, res.

MAID required immediately. Indian, for a family, full time. Contact Souk Al Khrafi, Shop No. 18, Mubarakiya. Tel. 2446655.

MAID required, Filipino, for a small family to live in. Must speak good English. Tel. 5743169.

MAID required, Indian/Sri Lankan only, for a small Indian family with two children, to live in, in Abu Halifa. Residence can be arranged after two months. Salary KD45. Tel. 9028259.

MITSUBISHI Lancer 1987 (box), manual, 5 speed, dark blue, registered up to July 1990 with AC and new tyres, in excellent condition. KD1600 cash or by instalments. Tel. Mr. Abu Ammar, 4749941, 4-11 pm.

MITSUBISHI Turbo Starion, '84 model, white, in very good condition. KD1300. Tel. Mr. Issa, 5634200.

MERCEDES 230, 1977 model, automatic, insured up to October 1989, in good condition. KD1200. Tel. 4743133, 8 am - 2 pm.

## SITUATIONS

LADY secretary, Indian, 38 years old with 15 years experience as a typist/clerk with knowledge of office procedure, seeks employment immediately. Tel. 4733623, 9am - 1pm.

ENERGETIC young Indian male, B.Com. with knowledge of computers (basic), law and accounts, 2 years experience in accounts and office routine with a good command of spoken and written English, seeks suitable employment. Tel. Doris, 2422442, 2421536, during office hours.

## Vacant

MAID required for a family. Must be Muslim. Tel. Mr. Ahmed, 9029250.

MAID required immediately. Indian, for a family, full time. Contact Souk Al Khrafi, Shop No. 18, Mubarakiya. Tel. 2446655.

MAID required, Filipino, for a small family to live in. Must speak good English. Tel. 5743169.

MAID required, Indian/Sri Lankan only, for a small Indian family with two children, to live in, in Abu Halifa. Residence can be arranged after two months. Salary KD45. Tel. 9028259.

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مكة المكرمة

SPORTS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1989

### Kelly knocks out Richards to retain NABF crown

INGLEWOOD, California, March 21. (AP): Defending champion Derrick Kelly used flurries and combinations to score an eighth round knockout yesterday over Derwin Richards to retain the North American Boxing Federation welterweight crown.

Kelly, of the United States, held an advantage throughout the scheduled 12-round bout with quick moves that confused the 21-year-old Richards, also of the United States.

Referee Lou Filippo stopped the contest at 2:15 of the eighth round as Richards was unable to ward off his 28-year-old opponent's punches.

Both boxers weighed 147 pounds.

#### Challenge

Kelly, who was expected to meet a difficult challenge from the NABF's No 10 contender, raised his record to 23-1-2, with eight knockouts. He gained the NABF welterweight crown with a victory over Luis Santana of the Dominican Republic.

Richards falls to 19-7, 13 by knockout. In a semifinal match in the \$225,000 Forum superlightweight tournament championship, Rodolfo Aguilar, of Panama, won a unanimous 10-round decision over Joe Rivera, of Puerto Rico.

Aguilar, who will fight Puerto Rico's Samuel Fuentes in the finals, is now 25-2-1, with 14 knockouts. Rivera falls to 19-2, with 11 knockouts.

### Dintrans out of New Zealand rugby tour

PARIS, March 21. (Reuters): Veteran French hooker Philippe Dintrans has declared himself unavailable for this June's tour of New Zealand because he has to rest damaged tendons.

Dintrans, 32, said after Saturday's 19-3 victory over Scotland he hoped to return to the national side for the 1990 five nations tournament.

"My reasons are purely medical. I need to rest four damaged tendons, especially the Achilles, but I will be a candidate for the next tournament," he told reporters.

#### Last

French team coach Jacques Fouroux said before Saturday's match it would be the last for several members of the French scrum because of their age.

But two pack members thought to be heading for retirement said yesterday they wanted to be considered for the New Zealand tour.

Prop forward Jean-Pierre Garuel, at 36 the oldest member of the side, provided an invaluable anchor for the French pack on Saturday.

### Holland beats South Korea

SYDNEY, Australia, March 21. (AP): Holland scored a 3-1 victory over South Korea in a 'C' pool World Ice Hockey Championship match late yesterday in Sydney.

Tony Collard, Fred Homburg and Antoine Geesink scored for Holland, while So Chang Gol was on target for South Korea.

In a match played earlier yesterday, China and Bulgaria drew 3-3.

Four round-robin matches are scheduled Tuesday, with Holland playing Bulgaria, Austria facing Yugoslavia, China meeting Hungary and North Korea playing South Korea.

### Maleeva sisters advance in Players tennis

## Krickstein fights off Mattar in first round

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla., March 21. (Reuters): American Aaron Krickstein fought off bad memories of last week and came from a two-set deficit for the sixth time in his career to defeat Luiz Mattar of Brazil yesterday in the first round of \$2.1 million International Players Championships.

#### Draws

Sixth-seeded Manuela Maleeva joined her Bulgarian sister, eighth-seeded Katerina, in the second round with a 6-1 6-3 victory over Australian Jenny Byrne, while fifth-seeded Zina Garrison of the US also advanced easily.

Spain came through with a brother-sister combination when eleventh-seeded Emilio Sanchez routed American Jimmy Brown 6-0 6-1 6-3 and sister Arantxa, seeded 12th, outslugged Jo-Anne Faull of Australia 6-3 6-4.

Top seeds Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and Argentine Gabriela Sabatini play their first-round matches today in the two-week tournament, the only event

outside the four Grand Slams to feature two 128-player singles draws.

Other straight set winners included seventh-seeded Thomas Muster of Australia, a host of Swedes including 14th seeds Mikael Pernfors and Catarina Lindqvist, and fifteenth-seeded Raffaella Reggi of Italy.

Krickstein, suffering from strained tendons in his elbow, needed two sets to find his rhythm against Mattar, who repeatedly frustrated Krickstein with his variety of crafty angles from both wings before the American prevailed 4-6 3-6 7-6 (7-2) 6-0 7-6 (7-5).

The 10th-ranked Krickstein got out to a 4-1 lead in the third set when Mattar double-faulted away the fifth game but could not hold the service break, forcing himself to win a crucial third set tiebreak 7-2.

Mattar, 47th in the world, suffered a letdown and dropped the next eight games to lose the fourth set and fall behind 0-2 in



Maleeva victory

the fifth set before leveling the set at 2-2 and eventually forcing the decisive fifth-set tiebreak.

Krickstein jumped out to a lead of 2-0 on two forehand winners and 4-2 but Mattar fought back to 4-4, only to watch Krick-

stein hit a service winner for 5-4 and go on to win the tiebreak 7-5 on two careless errors from Mattar in the final three points.

The 10th seed said that his biggest dilemma was the match he lost last week to countryman

Pete Sampras on a controversial call.

"I'm still distracted from last week," Krickstein said. "Mentally I wasn't into the first two sets. But any time you win a long match, it helps your confidence."

The tournament, which will be reduced to 10 days next year, has six of the top 10 players in both the men's and women's ranks. Ivan Lendl is the top male seed, while Gabriela Sabatini is the top women seed.

#### Skipping

Steffi Graf and Martina Navratilova, the top two women players, are skipping the tournament, as are Stefan Edberg, Boris Becker and John McEnroe.

Muster, a first-round loser last week at Indian Wells, California, to Alberto Mancini, said he was glad to play on the first day of the tournament and get a win.

"I didn't have the feeling it was close," he said of his match with Odizor. "I always had control over the match. There was no danger."

## Cavaliers beat Bullets

NEW YORK, March 21. (AP): John "Hot Rod" Williams scored six points during a key 12-3 flurry early in the fourth quarter and the Cleveland Cavaliers tied a team record with seven successful 3-point shots last night in beating the Washington Bullets 103-97.

Ron Harper scored 23 points and Craig Ehlo had 21 for Cleveland, whose 48-17 record is the best in the National Basketball Association, 11-2 games better than idle Detroit (45-17) in the Central Division. The Cavaliers have won three straight games overall and 24 of the last 25 at home.

#### Maintained

Washington led 55-51 at half-time and maintained a narrow margin for most of the third quarter. But Darnell Valentine's 3-pointer with one second left in the period — his second of the night and only his third of the year — gave the Cavaliers a 79-77 lead. Cleveland was 7-of-8 on 3-point shots.

Washington's Charles Jones made a layup to tie it 79-79 before Williams hit a 15-foot jumper and a 10-foot baseline shot to

trigger the 12-3 run that put Cleveland up for good 91-82. Bernard King scored 22 points and Edell Ackles 20 for the Bullets.

Ed Pinckney scored nine of his 22 points in a 15-4 third-quarter run that enabled the Boston Celtics to beat the San Antonio Spurs for the 20th straight time, 119-108.

Patrick Ewing had 31 points and 14 rebounds and rookie guard Rod Strickland had 20 points and 10 assists as the New York Knicks beat the Philadelphia 76ers 129-109.

#### Hel 3 off

Tyrone Brookes scored five points in the final 40 seconds as the Charlotte Hornets held off the Sacramento Kings 117-110.

Clyde Drexler and Kevin Duckworth combined for 27 third-quarter points in Portland's best period of the season, leading the Trail Blazers to a 112-91 victory over the Dallas Mavericks.

Tom Chambers scored 26 points and Kevin Johnson had 12 of his 21 in a decisive third period as the Phoenix Suns beat the Miami Heat 115-97 for their 11th straight home victory.

## Rodrigues overcomes Tillis

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 21. (AP): South American heavyweight boxing champion Adilson "Maguila" Rodrigues of Brazil won a unanimous decision over James Tillis of the United States in a 10-round fight yesterday in southwestern Brazil.

Rodrigues improved his record to 32-2, with 26 knockouts, in a quest for a title match against world heavyweight champion Mike Tyson. Tillis' record is 32-14 and one draw.

The Brazilian boxer was more aggressive and scored the only knockdown of the fight in the fifth round, when he staggered

Tillis with a right and the US boxer took a mandatory eight-count.

"Rodrigues is a great fighter, but I thought I won it," Tillis said after the judges announced the decision at the Municipal Gymnasium in Toledo, a city of 37,000 in Brazil's southern coffee belt, 860 miles (1,380 kms) southwest of Rio.

#### Strung

The judges scored the fight 99-91, 99-89, 99-91 for Rodrigues.

After a cautious start, Tillis

strung Rodrigues in the third round with a straight left that buckled the Brazilian's knees, but Rodrigues managed to stay on his feet and dodged until the end of the round.

Rodrigues recovered in the following rounds and connected with combinations to the head and body. The capacity crowd of 3,800 that paid up to \$100 a seat chanted "Maguila, Maguila" when the Brazilian scored with a punch.

In the final round, Rodrigues again punished Tillis with combinations as the American, visibly tired, showed almost no reaction.

## Italian women seek double honours

FLORENCE, Italy, March 21. (Reuters): Italy's women basketballers seek double honours tomorrow with Primigi Vicenza, Europe's top team of the 1980s, leading the way against Yugoslavs Jedinstvo-Aida Tuzla in the final of the Champion Clubs Cup.

Vicenza are hunting their sixth title in seven successive finals and Basket Femmine Milan are hoping to join them on the honours roll when they battle Soviets CSKA Moscow in the Ronchetti Cup final on a double bill in Florence.

Tuzla, the first Yugoslav team

to face the Italians in a final, have a formidable weapon in two-metre captain Razija Mujanovic, European Player of the Year last season and a star of the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

But Vicenza hope their tactics will leave her standing.

"We must keep the rhythm low... but try always to attack in five against four before Mujanovic can get back to defend," Vicenza coach Aldo Corno said.

He dismisses Vicenza's favourites tag on home soil, noting Tuzla beat them in Yugoslavia in their passage to the final.

Basket Femmine, who boasts US Olympic gold medal pivot Jennifer Gillom, face a daunting task against CSKA Moscow as they chase their first Ronchetti Cup title after successive defeats to Soviet teams in 1987 and 1988.

#### Title

Soviet women have won the title 10 times since 1972 and Milan would be only the second Italian squad to capture it.

"I can't say we're stronger than the Russians or make excuses for a team that gets within inches of victory every year but never quite makes it," trainer Antonio Morabito said.

"We have the will and character to pit against superior Soviet technique... and while there is every reason to fear a hammering I hope we have the mettle to be worthy Europeans."

CSKA are led by new coach Anatoly Myshkin, recently one of the stars in the Soviet national team, in their bid to seize the only European title chance left for a Soviet club.

Olesya Barel, a key player in both club and national squads, is ably supported by Youth Internationalists, including Yelena Torkidzu and Svetlana Kuznetsova.

## Heyssel soccer riots verdict expected in April

BRUSSELS, Belgium, March 21. (AP): The Heyssel soccer riots trial ended yesterday and a three-judge panel is expected to rule April 28 whether two dozen Britons are guilty in the deaths of 39 fans at the 1985 European Champions' Cup final.

The British fans are charged with involuntary manslaughter for allegedly instigating Europe's worst soccer riots yet and face up to 10 years in prison.

Two Belgian police officials and former chairman of the Belgian Soccer Federation face lesser charges for badly organizing security at the match.

Monday's closing arguments ended over five months of hearings to find out what blame the suspects had in the riots at Heyssel Stadium prior to the May 29,

1985, final between Liverpool and Juventus Turin of Italy.

"All the cards are on the table" for the judges to make their final decision, said public prosecutor Pierre Erauw.

The verdict is expected April 28.

Amid the long and often repetitive court sessions, Erauw stood out when he said Jan 18 the two British suspects should be acquitted for lack of proof while evidence against eight others was inconclusive.

For those who should be convicted he called for prison terms of only up to four years, far less than the maximum penalty.

But the three Belgians facing trial could not count on Erauw's leniency, he said. They face up to two years imprisonment.

Belgian authorities asked the extradition of 26 Britons, and Britain, determined to stamp out the phenomenon of hooliganism that has dented its reputation in Europe, complied in Sept 1987.

Their extradition requests were based on videotapes and pictures of the riots. They showed British fans tearing down a flimsy fence separating them from their Italian fans in the old stands of the Heyssel Stadium.

#### Panic

They invaded the stand, causing a panic during which the victims were trampled and crushed to death as they tried to flee the violence.

In addition to the 39 deaths, more than 500 fans were injured. After their extradition, the

suspects were soon released to await trial as the legal preparation for the complicated case dragged on.

Most were back in court on Oct 17, 1988, when the trial opened in earnest. Two suspects have not attended the trial because they are imprisoned in Britain on unrelated matters.

The proceedings opened amid a blaze of publicity but the public soon lost its appetite for the technical discussions and procedural issues. What was at first seen as a trial of soccer hooliganism soon became a tardy legalistic process that dragged on without drama.

Soon after the trial opened, the Britons returned home and came back only sporadically for the sessions that immediately concerned them.

### Maradona attraction

MUNICH, March 21. (AP): Diego Maradona's imminent visit to Munich is creating a soccer fever that drew 5,000 fans to the box office yesterday as Bayern Munich began selling tickets for its UEFA Cup semifinal game against Napoli.

"We've never seen anything like this," Bayern spokesman Markus Hoerwick said of the run on the tickets for the game. "It's crazy."

Maradona, the Argentine World Cup star, is the captain of Napoli.

The fans began gathering in the early morning hours and created a 600-metre long line in front of Bayern's club house.

Bayern expects a sell-out crowd of 72,000 at Munich's Olympic stadium for the match April 19, the return leg of the semifinal tie.

## Turkish club wants European soccer semifinal in Izmir

ISTANBUL, March 21. (Reuters): Turkey's Galatasaray, banned from home because of crowd trouble, hope to play next month's European Cup soccer semifinal "home" leg against Romania's Steaua Bucharest in Izmir, a club official said yesterday.

#### Trouble

In Geneva, a European Football Union (UEFA) official said there would be no objection to any venue in Turkey provided it was at least 300 km from Istanbul, though it would require UEFA's formal approval. The Aegean city of Izmir is 600 km to the southwest.

Galatasaray were ordered by the European Football Union

(UEFA) to play "home" games at least 300 km away following crowd trouble in the second round tie with Switzerland's Neuchatel Xamax last November.

Galatasaray club official Erol Vanlioglu said: "We want to play in Izmir because the stadium is the best equipped in Turkey and can hold 70,000 people."

"Our choice of Izmir depends on UEFA approval. They may reject Izmir if they think sufficient security measures cannot be implemented."

But UEFA spokeswoman Suzanne Otth said security was the responsibility of Galatasaray. UEFA would not inspect the stadium.

She said Izmir had previously

staged internationals without a problem. "If they want to play in Izmir they need our formal approval," she added.

#### Refused

Otth said Galatasaray had been refused permission to stage the April 19 semifinal second leg in Cologne, venue for last week's quarter final second leg against French champions Monaco.

"We have no objection to them playing anywhere in Turkey as long as it is at least 300 km from their home stadium in Istanbul," she said.

Most of the 60,000 crowd at the Galatasaray-Monaco clash in Cologne were Turks. About 1.5 million immigrant Turks live in West Germany.



Sheraton Bridge Club awarded prizes to the best bridge players of 1988. Picture shows from right to left: Magdi Mesdari (first), Mrs Rima Farrah, Mohammed Merchant (honorary secretary of the club) Ravi Bhatt (second) Desmond Pereira (third).

## East German soccer hit by troubles

EAST BERLIN, March 21. (Reuters): East German soccer, a sad story compared with the country's success in other sports, has launched a two-pronged offensive against poor performances on the pitch and hooligans on the terraces.

It is a desolate scene of squandered chances in European competition and World Cup qualifiers, indifferent players, complacent trainers and rowdy fans fed up with shoddy football.

East Germany have not qualified for the World Cup finals since 1974, but there are glimmers of hope for the game, the country's most popular spectator sport despite its failings.

#### Semifinals

Lokomotiv Leipzig went down 1-0 against Ajax in the 1987 final of the Cupwinners' Cup, and Dynamo Dresden are in the semifinals of this season's UEFA Cup.

But against the general disappointing backdrop, new national team trainer Manfred Zapf and Football Federation (DFV) chief Wolfgang Spitzner have launched an assault to give soccer a reputation in keeping with the country's prowess elsewhere.

But early signs are that it will be an uphill struggle.

"Successful football is not just a question of talent," said Zapf in a recent Sports Magazine interview.

"Training and education questions were inexcusably neglected in many cases."

For years the idea of developing individualists was frowned upon in favour of a dull collective style and young players were tied to set positions too early, he said.

Zapf has the pedigree to back up his criticism. In 1974 he cap-

tained Magdeburg to a 2-0 victory over AC Milan in the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup.

That remains East Germany's only European club trophy victory.

Spitzner said the DFV strategy for revitalising the game boiled down to three points:

— Better leadership through improved training for officials.

— Improved education for trainers with an emphasis on their role as team leaders.

— Greater concentration on developing youth soccer.

#### Training

Zapf said top-level players would also need to take on more rigorous training methods and be prepared to accept criticism.

"No one, I repeat no one, has carved out a permanent niche," he warned.

There are no moves as yet to follow other East bloc countries in allowing foreign transfers as a source of hard currency and new talent.

But Zapf has urged the East German media to be more frank in their appraisal of team and individual performances, an offer the newspapers have taken up with some relish.

Despite the proposals and analytical post mortems, East German soccer is still wallowing.

"There's been a lot of talking and a lot of soul-searching but still there is not much sign of a change," lamented one sports federation source.

The first international after Zapf's appointment produced a 4-0 away win against Egypt, hardly top-flight opponents. This month a friendly against Greece resulted in a 3-2 defeat.

Zapf said the new tactics and team line-up tried against Greece

had failed and would not be repeated.

He was called in as national trainer after East Germany lost 3-1 to Turkey in a World Cup qualifier last November and promptly set about weeding out players and selecting two assistants.

East Germany face Finland in a friendly this Wednesday before taking on Turkey again at home next month.

A home victory over Iceland last year gave the East Germans their total of two points in as many matches in World Cup qualifying Group Three which also includes the Soviet Union and Austria.

#### Surge

As if not strapped enough with the task of raising the game to what is seen as an acceptable international standard, the DFV also faces a renewed surge of crowd trouble.

Newspapers have printed startling reports about how fans turned up at one game with cases of fireworks and others fought opposing supporters on a train, holding up traffic on the line as they tore up seats and hurled stones.

Referees were recently forced to suspend matches because of unruly crowds. Linesmen have been pelted with objects. The DFV and teams have appealed to fans "to keep such rowdies out of the stadiums."

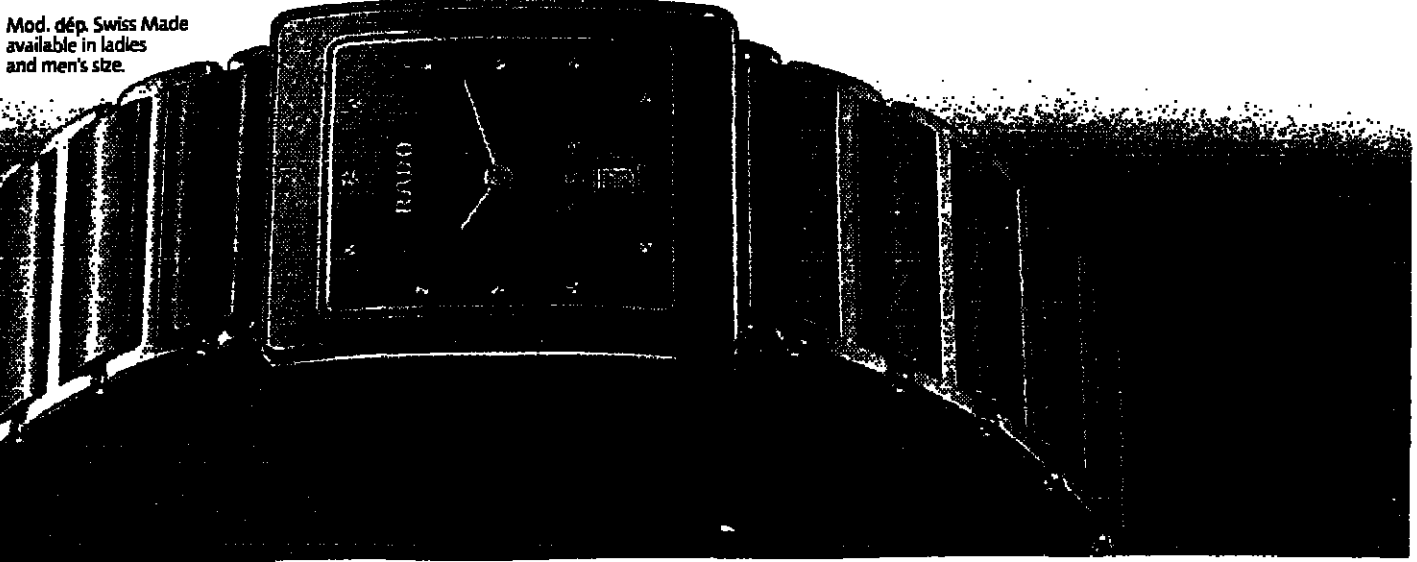
Officials at Magdeburg, which is a major source of trouble, handed out anti-violence leaflets at the weekend and the team captain urged the crowd in a loud-speaker message not to riot.

Chemie Halle have been fined and other First Division clubs reprimanded and ordered to boost security at stadiums.

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Two-match limited-over cricket series

# Pakistan to meet Sri Lanka in Sharjah

DUBAI, March 21 (AP): Pakistan meets Sri Lanka on Thursday and Friday in a two-match limited-over cricket series for the \$25,000 Sharjah Cup played at the grassy Sharjah stadium.

The Sri Lankans, skippered by all-rounder Arjuna Ranatunga, flew in last night and had a training session today.

The Pakistanis, captained by Imran Khan, are to arrive in Dubai late tonight.

Top Pakistan batsman Javed Miandad will miss this Cricketers Benefit Fund Series (CBFS) because of a back injury that occurred during Pakistan's recent tour of New Zealand.

His absence is a blow to Pakistan

hopes of avenging their last two Asia Cup defeats at the hands of the youthful Sri Lankans.

Pakistan's ace leg spinner Abdul Qadir, the major beneficiary, will receive a check for \$50,000 at the end of the series.

Pakistani Test selector Saleemuddin Ahmed, the other beneficiary, is in line for \$15,000.

The winning team also will receive \$15,000 and the loser \$10,000.

The CBFS makes awards to current and former Test stars at each tournament. Among past beneficiaries are Sunil Gavaskar of India, Pakistan's Imran Khan and Javed Miandad, Indians

Kapil Dev and Ravi Shastri and West Indians Clive Lloyd and Joel Garner.

Sri Lanka have recalled Roy Dias, a stylish batsman, for the tournament, but will be without regular skipper Ranjan Madugalle, who said he was unavailable.

Sharjah boasts the only Test-standard cricket ground in the Middle East.

All seven Test-playing countries have participated in the lucrative competitions here which are supervised by neutral umpires.

**Teams:**  
PAKISTAN: Imran Khan (captain), Abdul Qadir, Salim

Malik, Ejaz Ahmed, Shoaib Mohammed, Rameez Raja, Salim Yusuf (wicket keeper), Aamer Malik, Tauseef Ahmed, Salim Jaffer, Aqib Javed, Shahid Mahboob, Mansur Rana, Mushtaq Ahmed.

SRI LANKA: Arjuna Ranatunga (captain), Ravi Ratnayake, Roy Dias, Duleep Mendis, Brendon Kuruppu (wicket keeper), Aravinda de Silva, Roshan Mahanama, Harshan Tilakaratne, Roger Wijesuriya, Athula Samarasekera, Asoka de Silva, Kapila Wijegunawardena, Graeme Labrooy, Nilantha Ratnayake.

Umpires — R. Ramaswamy and Ram Babu Gupta (India)



Imran Khan

## England down Kenya in table tennis championship

CARDIFF, Wales, March 21 (AP): Newcomer Nicky Mason won four matches as defending champion England downed Kenya and the British island of Jersey by 5-0 scores yesterday in the first two rounds of the men's team event at the Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships.

In other early-round men's team action, Pakistan defeated Wales and Australia by 5-1 scores and New Zealand and Nigeria beat Northern Ireland by the same score.

Jamaica defeated Scotland 5-3 as Garfield Jones fought off 10 match points before overcoming Scot David McIlroy 4-21, 22-20, 21-13, but then lost 5-0 to Canada.

India defeated Cyprus and the Isle of Man by 5-0 scores, while Australia and Hong Kong each defeated Barbados 5-0 in other men's battles.

In women's team play, England defeated Scotland 3-0, Australia routed Northern Ireland by the same score and Nigeria was a 3-1 winner over Wales in the first round while India was a 3-0 victor over Jamaica and Hong Kong scored a 3-0 triumph over New Zealand.

In the second round of women's play, England defeated Northern Ireland 3-0, Scotland triumphed over India by the same score and Hong Kong shut out Wales, while Canada beat New Zealand, Australia defeated the Isle of Man and Nigeria topped Kenya, all by 3-0 scores.

Mason, making his Commonwealth debut, won England's opening men's match against Kenyan Moses Maina and then clinched the triumph with an easy victory over Fahd Daim.

## KAPILKU bowling tournament

THE Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (KAPILKU) is organising the first L&M Open Team Bowling Tournament to be held during the month of Holy Ramadan starting on Thursday, April 6 at Holiday Inn Hotel at 6:30 pm. The team competition is open to all nationalities and divided into two categories, that is, men's and ladies divisions. The team is composed of three members for both divisions and it will be a one round robin game. The top three for both divisions will receive trophies, medals and valuable prizes from L&M plus the right to represent L&M Kuwait in Gulf Bowling Tournament. The champions for both divisions will participate in all Middle East bowling tournaments with all expenses shouldered by the L&M, as part of their major prizes in the competition. Playing days will be Wednesday and Thursday only from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

Manny Inserto, KAPILKU president said that the proceeds of this tournament will be used to finance other projects and to repatriate needy Filipinos who want to go back home to see their families.

The participating teams will choose their names from the different flowers from the Philippines, as follows: Sampaguita (Philippine national flower), Ilang-ilang, Rosal, Orchid, Waling-waling, Santan, Camia, Champaca, Campupot, Everlasting, Cadena de Amor, Calachuchi, Dahlia, Yellow Bell, Hasmin, Rose, Carnation and others.

The tournament is being sponsored by L&M and organised by KAPILKU and in co-operation with PBAK and Holiday Inn Hotel.

## Skylark crush Brothers to win trophy

SKYLARK Cricket Club crushed Brothers Sporting Club by 124 runs to win the finals of India Tea Board Trophy played at EPI grounds at Ardiya on Friday, organised by Gulf Cricket League.

Skylark CC captain Archie Menezes won the toss and elected to bat first. Their openers Victor Martin and John China put on only 23 runs off the fifth over when John China was brilliantly caught by Nadir to the bowling off Arshad.

Sandeep Arya joined Victor M. and carried the score to 79. Victor M. was out for 23. Nasir joined Sandeep and the latter ripped through Brother's bowling to reach his individual score of 108, which included seven boundaries. Nasir contributed 28 valuable runs and was out when the score was 167 for three wickets.

Then onwards wickets started falling at regular intervals.

Only Archie M. offered some resistance scoring 15 runs as Skylark managed to score 217 runs in 41.5 overs for the loss of nine wickets.

For Brothers the main wicket takers were Arshad 3 for 38, Shehzad 3 for 43, Robin one for 50, Manoj one for 42.

Brothers started their innings with Nadeem and Montu. But



Skylark team

Nadeem was well caught by Nasir to the first ball from Aboobaker in the second over. Aboobaker claimed the second wicket of Montu in the fourth over for eight runs.

The new batsmen Asgar and Masood tried to repair the damage but couldn't resist the bowling of Skylark. Masood was caught by Nasir off China for 37 runs in the eighth over. Only Asgar had shown some hopes to Brothers, but was out low for 29 to Victor D'Souza. As the wickets started falling quickly to the accurate bowling of Lancy and

Victor, Brothers were all out for 93 runs. Only Tutul 15, Shehzad 12, Manoj 10 reached the double figures. For Skylark, Lancy claimed four wickets for 15 runs, Victor D'Souza two for 20, Aboobaker two for 24 and John China one for 23.

Sangupta of India Tea Board, who was the guest of honour, distributed the winner's trophy to Archie Menezes of Skylark and runners-up trophy to Brothers captain Sadiq. Sandeep Arya was declared the Man of the Match and best batsman, and Lancy as best bowler.

## Gujarat defeat Hassawi

GUJARAT Cricket Club defeated Hassawi Cricket Club by just two runs in a Shaikh Abdullah Cricket League Trophy at Shuwaikh new ground on Friday afternoon.

GCC after winning the toss elected to bat first. Openers Tanveer and Abuzer put on 34 runs in six overs. Abuzer was the first to go after scoring 14 runs. This brought in Saleem who was out soon and the wickets started falling at regular intervals. Tanveer scored 38 and was the top scorer for GCC. Skipper Essa 26, Abuzer 14, and Wahab 13 were other batsmen to go in double figures. Gujarat scored 129 runs for the loss of nine wickets in their 25 allotted overs.

Wicket takers for Hassawi were Kaleem and Kishore with two wickets each. Rafiq, Ashfaq and Anil bagged one each.

In reply Hassawi lost opener Kishore in the second over bowled by Khuzema for just one. Hassawi kept losing the wickets and Kaleem was the only batsman to stand at the crease for a long time to score 40 runs for the losers. Pradeep added valuable 27 runs as HCC were all out for 127 runs.

## Galaxy crush Siddique

GALAXY Cricket Club brushed aside Siddique Club by six wickets in the keenly contested semifinal of Pakistan Trophy at N.C. ground on Thursday afternoon.

Batting first, Siddique scored 197 runs after losing nine wickets in the allotted 25 overs. Sharif 69, Tariq Khan 32 and Khalid Javed 22 were the main contributors towards the total. For Galaxy, Riaz Chaudhry was striker-in-chief with three for 23 as Riaz Mian and Azim bagged two wickets each giving away 25 and 36 runs respectively. Sher Afzal and Tariq Bashir chipped in

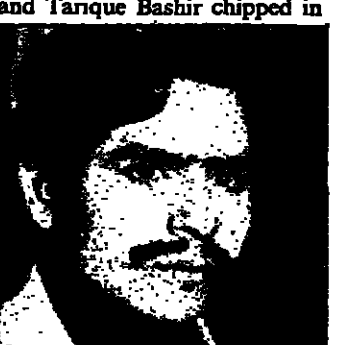
with a piece each.

Needing nearly eight per over, Galaxy were in doldrums having lost three for just 20 runs but then Ayub and skipper Ghulam Haider put their heads down and started repairing the early damage.

Both were playing disciplined innings but still never sparing any loose ball. The tables turned over Siddique when Arif was smashed for 19 in an over and Khalid Jr. gave away 16 in his first over. This raised the spirits in Galaxy's camp and panic was evident among Siddique club's fielders.

When the score reached 172, the partnership of 152, Ayub playing across the flight of ball lost his stumps. His superb knock of 83 was studded with five boundaries. Sher Afzal joined Ghulam Haider and both got the required runs on the penultimate ball of the match.

Ghulam Haider's 81 unbeaten runs contained two towering sixes and three fours. Sher Afzal scored 15 runs. For Siddique Club Asif had two wickets and Khalid Jr. picked one. In the final Galaxy will meet Crown.



Ayub: 83 runs

## ACC overcomes Premier

ALA Cricket Club won the semifinals of Ala Cricket Tournament by 56 runs against Premier on Friday.

At morning ACC won the toss and batted first. ACC scored 159 runs in 25 overs at the loss of nine wickets. Gulab was the main scorer with 64 runs including six fours and one six.

Abu Backer scored 28 runs with four boundaries and also some quick runs from Sheikh Ayub brought ACC to a good average. He played only seven balls and scored 17 runs with two boundaries and a mighty six.

The other important scorers for the match were Fabian and Anil who scored 10 runs each with some good strokes. Finally ACC were 159 nine in 25 overs.

As premier side has a good batting line up started their innings very comfortably and strongly. One time they were in top with a score of 79 runs in 10 overs with seven wickets in hand with the average of 7.9 runs per over. The match seemed completely in the hand of Premier but Sheikh Ayub bowled very brilliantly to take some quick wickets. Also batsmen Nalaka

## Non-title fight

WYONG, Australia, March 21 (AP): Unbeaten Australian super-middleweight boxer Jeff Harding will fight Dario Matteoni of Argentina in a non-title fight at Newcastle basketball stadium on May 12, promoter Bill Mordey announced today.

Mordey said he hoped the World Boxing Council, which ranks Harding No. 2, would recognize the contest as an official eliminator for the super-middleweight title held by Sugar Ray Leonard.

# Great Britain and Pakistan to play in Speedbird Trophy

GREAT Britain and Pakistan contest the British Airways Speedbird Trophy Cricket Tournament on Friday at the KOC New Ground, Ahmadi. The play will commence at 9.30 am.

The Great Britain XI will be: Craig Shipton, Dave Boldy, Peter Bond, Simon Clements, Martin Coulson, Patrick Flower, John McConville, Gerry Pallister, Richard Snowden, David Talbot and Kevin Wells. (12th man: Tony Stein).

The Pakistan team will be: Naeem, Iqbal, Farhat, Amjad, Wahid, Sakhawati, Zaheer, Rayees, Faisal, Riffat, Haider (12th man: Zahaad Baig).

**Edge**  
Current Friday League standings suggest the Great Britain side with the cream of Hubara and Casuals have the edge over the Pakistan XI.

However, Pakistan have dominated games between the sides in recent years and start favourites again.

Both sides are short of star players. The GB XI lack Jimmy James, Ron Seward and Steve

Anderson from their strongest line up and will await a fitness check on wicketkeeper John McConville on the day of the match.

Pakistan have a very strong batting line up with Hawks opener Amjad in good form. Rayees recently helped CCK to victory in the Rahman Trophy with a match winning innings. The remaining players all bat in the middle order for their respective clubs and should build a challenging score for the GB batsmen to match. GB's bowling attack, although severely weakened, will be spearheaded by Patrick Flower, playing his last Speedbird Trophy match.

debutant Dave Boldy, Richard Snowden and left arm spinner Peter Bond.

**Bowling**  
Pakistan's bowling will depend heavily on pace with Sakhawati, Faisal and Naeem likely to use the new ball. Riffat's own brand of spin will add variety to the attack. GB's batsmen have struggled to dominate in league matches despite

Hubara and Casuals' success this season. They will look to Craig Shipton for a solid innings. Wells and Talbot are still looking for a big score this season. Simon Clements returns to the GB side after a two year absence as the man in form. He has scored many of Casuals runs this season and should accelerate the innings from the middle order.

**Wicketkeepers**  
Both sides include excellent wicketkeepers in Iqbal and John McConville.

The organisers request all players to report to the ground at 9 am and to be presented to the British Ambassador, Peter Hinchcliffe.

After the match the presentation of the British Airways Speedbird Trophy will take place along with a return ticket to Karachi for Pakistan's Man of the Match. The adjudicator will also present a return ticket to London to Great Britain's Man of the Series considering performances on the day and in the last Speedbird Trophy game against India played last November.

## Hawks subdue Hubara



Hawks team with their trophy.

AN excellent piece of team-work fetched Hawks the Pat Keely Trophy.

Winning the toss, Hawks captain Amjad asked Hubara's captain Shipton to bat first. And this decision paid dividend to Hawks, while it was agonising for Hubara, as they lost their first wicket in the form of Talbot getting run out, and from here on it was a disaster, as wickets started falling at intervals.

This was mainly due to superb piece of fast bowling by Sakhawati, and intelligent swing bowling by Wahid, and equally, controlled spin bowling by Ralph de Neise and Mukesh made it very difficult for Hubara batsmen to score runs very freely. At this point of time, Hubara really missed the services of Jimmy James.

## Sustained

With the exception of Shipton (46), McConville (21) and Pallister (19), no other batsman sustained the onslaught of Hawks bowling quartet. At the end of the allotted 24 overs, Hubara could score only 120 runs for 9 wickets.

Sakhawati 3 for 37, Wahid 2 for 24, De Neise 1 for 16 and Mukesh 1 for 36, were the wreckers.

Hawks went in to bat with Shipton and Amjad. First over from Flower was a maiden, but he paid

the penalty in his third over, when he was clobbered for three boundaries and conceded 15 runs. Both batsmen kept the pressure on, playing defiantly at ease and took their opening partnership to 70 runs without any loss of wicket, until a deceptive ball from Oliver bowled Shipton removed Amjad, bowled for 39.

It is worth mentioning that the opening batsmen of Hawks have been very consistent and put on a solid foundation. Hiren came in, but was soon out lbw to Shipton.

But Chris Amarasekera and Mukesh saw through the Hawk's innings without any more loss of wickets. Both batsmen were unbeaten on 24 and 17 runs respectively.

**Crossed**  
Hawks crossed the winning mark with 21 balls to spare. Successful bowlers were Shipton 2 for 28 and Oliver 1 for 31.

After the match, the Pat Keely Trophy was presented by the chief guest, Mrs Munna Bhasin, to the captain of Hawks, Amjad, and individual prizes were also presented to the players of the winning team.

Pat Keely Trophy is donated by Bhasin Co., in honour of Pat Keely who was a cricket enthusiast, and also a well-known personality in Ahmadi cricket.

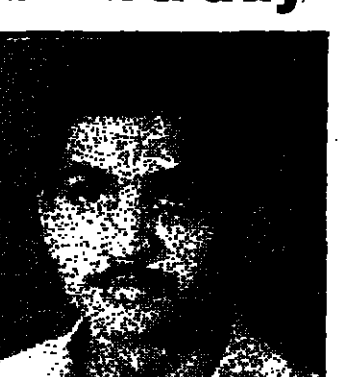
## Siddique Club wins two semifinals in a day

SIDDIQUE Cricket Club won two semifinals on Friday. In the morning Siddique Club defeated Super Star in Quaid-e-Millat trophy at Khaiteh airport ground.

Super Star won the toss and elected to bat with Razaq and Aiyas. From Siddique Club Malik bowled the first over. Super Star was in trouble when they lost two wickets just for a run. Thanks to Razaq, Sikandar and Waseem who made 39, 32 and 38 respectively no other batsman reached double figures. Malik got two wickets while Asif, Shahid, Tariq Khan and Khalid Perwez got one each. Super Star scored 157 for the loss of nine wickets.

In reply Siddique Club opened the innings through Tariq and Mehmood, both the batsmen played a solid inning and hit all over the ground especially Tariq was in superb form. No bowler was able to convince them. They scored 132 runs in first wicket partnership. Tariq was first to go after making 76 including 12 boundaries. Mehmood was next to go making 51 with 5 fours.

In the afternoon match Siddique defeated Y.M.C.A. Club at Sabah Al Salem ground. Batting first Y.M.C.A. were all out in 26 overs after making 157. Sajid 41, Hafiz 28 and Amroz 30 were the main scorers. No other batsman faced Siddique's bowlers confidently. From Sid-



Sharief: 74 not out

dique Club Tariq and Khalid Javid were the main wicket takers with 3 and 2. They were well supported by Asif and Tariq Khan with one each.

Siddique Club opened the innings with Mehmood and Tariq Khan. Both played well and gave a good start of 31 runs when Mehmood was out for 18. Sharief joined Tariq and took the score to 51 when Tariq was out for 20 runs. Then Khalid joined Sharief and both played well. Khalid was out with 16 when the total was 91. Sharief was batting playing well-timed shots. He was well supported by Khaled, who made 23 runs. Khalid Perwez and Sharief completed the target without being separated. Sharief made solid 74 runs and it was his third consecutive 50.

## Starlite beat Unity to win Raheem Cup

STARLITE brushed aside the challenge of a depleted Unity side on the KOC New Ground at Ahmadi to emerge victorious by three wickets to clinch the "Raheem Cup" sponsored by Gulf Engg. Co.

Chris opted to bat first, opening the Unity innings himself with Inam and put on a good partnership of 67 in 14 overs, the best first wicket stand of the whole season.

Chris playing some attacking shots and Inam content to get the singles and twos. Bader dismissed Chris with a faster delivery for 29 giving Starlite the much needed breakthrough.

Razzak played a breezy innings of 24 (inclusive of 4 boundaries and one six) before he was brilliantly caught at fine leg by Ejaz to make Unity 106 for two in 20 overs.

Another fine partnership prevailed between Shabbir and Inam taking the score to 158 before Inam left for a watchful 59 stumped by Mansoor off Qayyum. Danny prompted in the batting order justified his captain's decision as he collared the Starlite bowling to register a quick 39 including 4 fours and 2 sixes.



Iqbal receiving Man of the Match award.

Shabbir (19) Lewis (24) were both dismissed by Maqsood Jr. but useful contributions from the latter batsmen finally took Unity to 250 for 9 in 45 overs. Wickets were shared by Qayyum, Bader, Ejaz, Sohail, and Maqsood Jr taking four wickets.

Needing 251 for victory Starlite sent in Bader and Iqbal Jr who put on 26 in three overs with Danny giving away 10 in his first over. Danny however made amends when he had Bader caught behind by Inam — a splendid diving catch to draw first blood. Iqbal Jr grafted his runs slowly and steadily thereby gaining confidence and at times

getting on top of the bowling. Shehzad was run out for 25 making Starlite 68 for 2 in 10 overs. Iqbal was then associated in three profitable partnerships with Maqsood Sr (33) taking 18 from an over from Merwyn. Qayyum (16) and Maqsood Jr (39) and was mainly responsible for taking Starlite much nearer to the Unity total.

## Caught

Having reached the nervous nineties, Iqbal was caught by Shabbir off Chris for 93 glorious runs. Two vital catches were dropped earlier to give Starlite batsmen a boost in confidence. Ilyas (11) and Sohail (16) both unbeaten took Starlite past Unity's total to win handsomely by three wickets making 252 for seven in the process.

Shabbir and Chris took two wickets each for Unity. After the game, both teams were introduced to Santosh Kumar Beaspl, financial manager, Gulf Engg. Co. who then presented the Cup to Iqbal Rizvi of Starlite. He also in a brief speech thanked the organisers, members of both teams and distributed prizes amongst the players umpires and scorers. Iqbal Jr was named Man of the Match for his gallant innings of 93 runs.

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